



County Borough of Wolverhampton

The  
Health Services  
of  
Wolverhampton  
in 1959

ANNUAL REPORT

*by*

J. F. GALLOWAY, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

Principal School Medical Officer.



# County Borough of Wolverhampton



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Medical Officer of Health

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# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

at 31st December, 1959.

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	J. F. Galloway, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	...	...	M. J. Rayner, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (until 28.2.59). F. N. Garratt, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Ph.D. (from 1.3.59).
Maternity and Child Welfare Senior Assistant Medical Officer			Marjorie G. Carnaghan, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H. (promoted 20.4.59).
Assistant Medical Officers	...	...	Margaret Ingham, M.B., Ch.B. D.C.H. Margaret T. Wood, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (from 6.7.59).
Tuberculosis*	...	...	J. Aspin, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.M.R.D. J. D. P. David, B.Sc., M.D., B.Ch. (until 31.10.59).
Analysts	...	...	F. G. D. Chalmers (until 30.10.59). R. K. Chalmers, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. (from 1.11.59). C. N. Grange, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. (from 1.11.59).
Health Visiting.			
Superintendent	...	...	Miss M. Cole, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Health Visitors	...	...	11.
Nurses	...	...	3.
Midwifery.			
Supervisor	...	...	Mrs. D. K. Rinkel, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.
District Midwives	...	...	19.
Premature Baby Nurse	...	...	1.
Home Nursing.			
Superintendent	...	...	Miss E. Hill, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Home Nurses	...	...	20 (Six part time).
Mental Health Service.			
Mental Deficiency Officer	...	...	Miss E. Bottomley.
Duly Authorised Officers	...	...	F. L. Bird. E. V. Oram, S.R.N. R.M.D.N.
Special Training Centre			
Supervisor	...	...	Miss H. Chettle.
Special Training Centre			
Assistants	...	...	6, and 2 general assistants.
Home Help Service.			
Organiser	...	...	Miss M. Saunders.
Home Helps	...	...	77 (68 part time).
Day Nurseries.			
Matrons	...	...	Miss C. Fitzgerald, S.R.N. Miss K. A. Murray, C.N.N.
Nursery Assistants	...	...	25.
Domestic Staff	...	...	11 (Six part time).
After-care Officer	...	...	Miss E. H. Poole, B.A., A.M.A.I.
Public Health Inspectors.			
Chief Public Health Inspector			F. Binns Hartley, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Specialist Inspectors	...	...	9.
District Inspectors	...	...	5 (Two part time).
Pupil Inspectors	...	...	4.
Clerical.			
Chief Clerk.	...	...	J. Darby.
Clerks	...	...	23.
Clinic Clerks (part time)	...	...	10.
Other Staff.			
Rodent Operatives	...	...	2.
Miscellaneous	...	...	2.

\*Jointly with Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.



Health Department,  
59, Waterloo Road,  
Wolverhampton.  
Telephone Wolverhampton 24281.  
July, 1960.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Wolverhampton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This report on the health of Wolverhampton during 1959 relates to a dry year with one of the most brilliant summers on record when in the five months between the beginning of May and the end of September rain fell on 42 days and amounted to 6.87 inches, both figures being considerably less than half those of the previous year.

Employment improved during the year which opened with a relatively high rate of unemployment for this area of 2.2 per cent, but declined by the end of the year to 0.9 per cent compared with the national rate at that time of 1.9 per cent.

Although live births exceeded deaths by 723, the population declined by 1,700 to 146,100 indicating the net outward migration of 2,423 Wolverhampton residents during the year. In the seven years between mid-1952 and mid-1959 births have exceeded deaths by approximately 4,800 while the population has declined in the same period by 16,200 indicating the net outward migration of 21,000 people, a statement difficult to believe in view of the increasing congestion in the shopping areas. The explanation is that there has been a substantial increase in the total population centred around and working in Wolverhampton, but due to the slum clearance programme and to the absence of available building sites within the Borough with the consequent provision of houses in neighbouring local authorities, the proportion of this total population which sleeps within the Borough has declined materially.

Further evidence of this trend is seen in the decline by 156 in the number of inhabited houses in the Borough, due to the number of new houses (341) being exceeded by the number taken out of assessment (497) almost entirely due to demolition under

the slum clearance programme. This is the first time in the records of the Borough that a decline has occurred, and it reflects the magnitude of the slum clearance programme which in the five years that began in 1955 has resulted in the demolition of 2,500 houses and the rehousing of 7,000 people.

The principal causes of death continued to be diseases of the heart and circulation, cancer and diseases of the respiratory tract, which together accounted for 80 per cent of all deaths. Influenza, which was prevalent early in the year and reached its zenith in February, was responsible for 62 deaths, a number not exceeded since 1951. No cases of diphtheria, small pox or poliomyelitis occurred but there were two cases of typhoid, one a person infected in Spain and the other infected in India. The number of new cases of syphilis declined for the second successive year and there was a decline also in the number of cases of gonorrhoea for the first time since 1953, figures which suggest that the increased incidence of venereal disease experienced in Wolverhampton between 1953 and 1957 is now arrested. The continuous decline in Wolverhampton since 1920 in the tuberculous death rate has brought it to a new low level of 0.09 per thousand, and for the fourth successive year the figure for Wolverhampton is the same as the figure for England and Wales; locally there is also a decline in the number of new cases notified which fell for the third successive year to a figure substantially less than any figure previously recorded.

The number of deaths due to cancer of the lung continues to grow and 60 men and 12 women died from this cause. In the five years 1950 to 1954 the number who died was 213, including 24 females; in the five years 1955 to 1959 the number was 323, including 40 females. The relationship between heavy cigarette smoking and the majority of deaths from the condition is incontrovertible and no amount of ingenious chicanery can make it otherwise.

The infant mortality rate, 21.1 per thousand live births was the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton and below the rate of 22.0 for England and Wales. The maternal mortality rate no longer shows a downward trend locally; in the five years from 1950 to 1954 there were 7 maternal deaths associated with 13,492



births, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.52 per thousand births; in the five years 1955 to 1959 there were 9 maternal deaths associated with 12,089 births, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.74 per thousand births. These figures do not disclose that all the deaths between 1950 and 1954 were of Europeans but that only 5 of the 9 mothers who died between 1955 and 1959 were European and the remainder comprised 3 from Jamaica and 1 from India; indeed no European has died in the last two years. As the proportion of non-European mothers is small, these figures indicate a high maternal mortality rate among them, though calculated on few cases. The care provided for both groups of mothers is the same.

The part of the Mental Health Act, 1959, which permits the informal admission of patients came into operation in October and a high degree of co-operation on the part of the hospitals will be required if local health authorities are to be in a position to provide these patients with adequate after-care; the remainder of the Act has yet to come into operation, but when it does it will be another milestone on the road back to reliance on local authorities as responsible instruments of government.

The home nursing and the domestic help services both dealt with over 11 per cent more cases during the year, figures which should again remind health authorities that their share in the care of the sick and infirm is growing. The line of demarcation between the sick and the infirm is tenuous and tends to have local variations which reflect the relative size of the hospital provision for the chronic sick on the one hand and the local authorities' provision of welfare accommodation on the other.

Wolverhampton provides welfare accommodation which is adequate in quantity but there is a shortage of hospital beds for the chronic sick in this part of the West Midlands, a shortage recognised by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. Wolverhampton shares these limited hospital facilities with neighbouring local authorities whose welfare accommodation also is deficient. This prevents the efficient use of hospital beds to the detriment of all those, including Wolverhampton residents, who need hospital care.



Two innovations during the year are of interest. A rota for night duty in the domiciliary midwifery service was introduced in October; this had no deleterious effect on the quality of the service and has materially assisted recruitment of midwives. A laundry service for incontinent patients nursed at home was also introduced and is much appreciated by the patients and their relatives; the transport essential for this service is provided by the home nurses.

The net expenditure in Wolverhampton on the services of the local health authority per thousand population for the financial year 1958/59 was £1,149; the average for all County Boroughs was £1,231 per thousand population with variations extending from £800 to £1,879.

In his report, Mr. F. B. Hartley, the Chief Public Health Inspector, records further progress in slum clearance; during the year initial proceedings were taken to deal with 663 houses in clearance areas and 70 individual unfit houses. It was the first year in which all sections of the Clean Air Act were in operation, and the Council formulated a programme of Smoke Control Areas; by the end of the year the first area, a portion of the town centre, had been surveyed and the proposal of a Smoke Control Area had been referred to the Minister.

Dr. Rayner, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, left in February to join the staff of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and was succeeded by Dr. F. N. Garratt. Dr. Marjorie Carnaghan was promoted Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare in April and Dr. Margaret Wood joined the staff in July.

Yours faithfully,

J. F. GALLOWAY.

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION 1.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

## A. Summary of Statistics.

## 1. Comparison of Statistics.

	1929.	1939.	1949.	1958.	1959.
Population	134,300	146,300	160,000	147,800	146,100
Area in Acres	7,105	9,126	9,126	9,126	9,126
Inhabited houses	31,200	40,503	43,562	46,384	46,228
Birth Rate (live) (per 1,000 population)	18.8	16.9	18.1	16.4	16.2
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.0	11.0	11.2	11.2	12.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	60	51	38.9	25.2	21.1
Total Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)	34.8	36.0	26.7	28.9	24.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	3.5	4.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Cancer Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	1.35	1.44	1.42	1.98	1.96
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.92	0.64	0.60	0.10	0.09
Pulmonary only	0.78	0.59	0.56	0.07	0.07
Assessable Value	£810,023	£950,143	£1,035,677	£2,045,094	£2,062,289
Product of Penny Rate	£3,120	£3,760	£4,229	£8,186	£8,299

## 2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1959.

<b>Population</b> (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate)				146,100.	
<b>Live Births.</b>	Male.	Female.	Total.		
Legitimate	1,147	1,075	2,222		
Illegitimate	94	101	195		
Total	1,241	1,176	2,417	16.2	per 1,000 population.
<b>Still Births.</b>					
Legitimate	25	27	52		
Illegitimate	4	2	6		
Total	29	29	58	0.4	per 1,000 population.
				24.0	per 1,000 total births.
<b>Deaths</b>	886	808	1,694	11.6	per 1,000 population.
<b>Natural Increase</b>			723		
<b>Infant Mortality.</b>					
Legitimate	26	20	46	20.7	per 1,000 live legitimate births.
Illegitimate	2	3	5	25.6	per 1,000 live illegitimate births.
Total	28	23	51	21.1	per 1,000 live births.
<b>Neo-natal Mortality.</b> (deaths under 4 weeks)	20	17	37	15.3	per 1,000 live births.
<b>Early Neo-natal Mortality.</b> (deaths under 1 week)	20	14	34	14.1	per 1,000 live births.
<b>Perinatal Mortality.</b> (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week)	49	43	92	37.2	per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
<b>Maternal Mortality.</b>		1	1	0.40	per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
<b>Deaths from Tuberculosis.</b>					
Pulmonary	8	2	10	0.07	per 1,000 population.
Non-pulmonary	3	—	3	0.02	per 1,000 population.
Total	11	2	13		
<b>Deaths from Infectious Diseases.</b>					
Influenza	31	31	62		
Gastro-enteritis	4	2	6		
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1		
Staphylococcal septicæmia	1	—	1		
<b>Deaths from Cancer</b>	151	136	287	1.96	per 1,000 population.
<b>Area Comparability Factors.</b>					
Births		0.98			
Deaths		1.11			



TABLE I.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1959.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents within the Borough.										
	Male. All ages.	Female. All ages.	Total. All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and under 75 yrs.	75 yrs. and over.
... ..	886	808	1,694	51	6	12	13	62	410	436	704
... ..	8	2	10	—	—	—	—	5	3	1	1
... ..	3	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
... ..	27	20	47	—	—	—	—	3	13	12	19
... ..	60	12	72	—	—	—	—	2	36	22	12
... ..	—	31	31	—	—	—	—	4	17	6	4
... ..	—	15	15	—	—	—	1	2	3	4	5
... ..	62	52	114	—	—	1	2	6	42	39	24
... ..	2	6	8	—	—	3	—	2	2	—	1
... ..	1	9	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	4
... ..	106	133	239	—	—	—	—	3	40	75	121
... ..	121	86	207	—	—	—	—	4	56	68	79
... ..	15	21	36	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	23
... ..	116	140	256	—	1	—	—	3	42	54	156
... ..	25	24	49	—	—	—	—	2	10	12	25
... ..	31	31	62	—	1	—	—	2	25	12	22
... ..	76	61	137	4	1	—	1	2	29	38	62
... ..	89	32	121	—	2	—	—	1	34	40	44
... ..	8	3	11	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	7
... ..	11	5	16	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	5
... ..	4	2	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
... ..	2	5	7	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	4
... ..	11	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	6
... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
... ..	5	8	13	11	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
... ..	57	83	140	31	1	1	3	8	22	18	56
... ..	14	2	16	—	—	1	4	3	5	1	2
... ..	23	21	44	3	—	2	1	4	7	9	18
... ..	5	2	7	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	1
... ..	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—

## **B. General Statistics.**

### **1. Population.**

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at the 30th June, 1959 was 146,100, a decline of 1,700 in a year.

The proportion of the population who were under 15 years of age was estimated to be 23.7 ; the proportion for England and Wales was 20.7 per cent.

### **2. Inhabited Houses.**

At 31st March, 1959 there were 46,228 inhabited properties. The types of premises and their numbers were :—

Domestic	44,711
House shops	1,180
Off Licences	52
Unlicensed hotels and boarding houses	32
Licensed premises	253

The number of additional dwellings brought into rate in the year ending 31st March, 1959 was 341 and the number taken out of assessment was 497, leaving a decrease of 156.

### **3. Live Births.**

Live births consisted of 1,241 males and 1,176 females, a total of 2,417 (identical with the number in 1958) giving a birth rate of 16.5 per thousand population ; when the area comparability factor of 0.98 is applied, this is reduced to 16.2 per thousand. The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 16.5.

Of these 2,417 births 195 or 8.1 per cent were illegitimate. Last year the proportion was 7 per cent.

### **4. Stillbirths.**

These numbered 58 (of which 6 were illegitimate). These 58 represented a rate of 24.0 per thousand total births (live and still). The stillbirth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 20.7 per thousand total births.



## 5. Marriages.

The number of marriages registered in Wolverhampton during the year was 1,465, representing a marriage rate of 20.1 per thousand population. The rate for England and Wales was 15.0 per thousand population.

## 6. Deaths.

The number of deaths, comprising 886 males and 808 females, was 1,694 giving a death rate of 11.6 per thousand population; when the area comparability factor of 1.11 is applied this rate is increased to 12.9 per thousand. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.6

The principal causes of death were :—

(a) Diseases of heart and circulation.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system	239
Coronary disease, angina	207
Hypertension with heart disease	36
Other heart disease	256
Other circulatory disease	49
	<hr/>
	787 (47% of all deaths).
	<hr/>

(b) Cancer 287 (16.9% of all deaths).

(c) Diseases of respiratory tract.

Pneumonia	137
Bronchitis	121
Other respiratory diseases	11
	<hr/>
	269 (15.9% of all deaths).
	<hr/>

(d) Suicide and Violence.

Suicide	7
Motor vehicle accidents	16
All other accidents	44
Homicide and operations of war	2
	<hr/>
	69 ( 4.1% of all deaths).
	<hr/>

(e) Influenza	62 ( 3.7 % of all deaths).
(f) Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	16 ( 0.9 % of all deaths).
(g) Congenital malformations	13 ( 0.8 % of all deaths).
(h) Tuberculosis—all forms	13 ( 0.8 % of all deaths).
(i) Hyperplasia of prostate	11 ( 0.6 % of all deaths).
(j) Diabetes	10 ( 0.6 % of all deaths).

### 7. Infant Mortality.

There were 5 deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age (or 25.6 per thousand illegitimate births) and 46 deaths of legitimate infants (or 20.7 per thousand legitimate births). The total of 51 represents an infant mortality rate of 21.1 per thousand live births ; the rate for the whole of England and Wales was 22.0 per thousand live births. Deaths of infants under 4 weeks old numbered 37, giving a neonatal death rate of 15.3 per thousand live births ; the rate for England and Wales was 15.8. Deaths of infants under one week old numbered 34 giving an early neonatal mortality of 14.1 per thousand live births.

### 8. Perinatal Mortality.

Still births numbered 58 and deaths of infants under one week of age numbered 34 giving a total of 92 perinatal deaths or 37.2 per thousand live and still births. The rate for England and Wales was 34.2.

### 9. Maternal Mortality.

One maternal death occurred, the patient, a Jamaican aged 28 dying of internal hæmorrhage due to an ectopic pregnancy. As there were 2,475 live and still births, this death gave a maternal mortality rate of 0.40 per thousand (live and still) births. The rate for England and Wales was 0.38, including deaths due to abortion.

### 10. Deaths from Tuberculosis.

There were 13 deaths from tuberculosis representing a tuberculosis death rate of 0.09 per thousand population, the lowest yet recorded in Wolverhampton. The rate for England and Wales was 0.09 per thousand.

Respiratory tuberculosis was responsible for 10 of these deaths ; 8 were males and 2 of these were aged 38 years, 2 were aged 40 years, and the remainder varied between 48 and 73 years ; 2 were females, one aged 25 years and the other aged 77 years.

The 3 deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were all of males, one aged 5 months from miliary tuberculosis, one aged 5 years from tuberculous meningitis and one aged 58 years from tuberculosis of the spine.

### **11. Deaths from Infectious and Notifiable Diseases.**

There were 137 deaths from pneumonia (representing 0.94 per thousand population) but only a small proportion of these deaths occurred among the 103 cases of pneumonia which were notified ; 62 of the deaths were of patients aged 75 years or more.

In addition to 62 deaths due to influenza and 13 due to tuberculosis, other deaths from infectious diseases included a man aged 50 years who died of meningococcal infection of the brain, a young man of 20 years who died of staphylococcal septicæmia and multiple abcesses, and a man of 60 years who died of syphilis. There were six deaths from gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa, one of which occurred in a male child of one month.

### **12. Deaths from Cancer.**

There were 287 deaths from cancer, giving a death rate of 1.96 per thousand population ; for England and Wales the rate was 2.14. Of these deaths 151 occurred in males and the more frequent sites of the disease were lungs and bronchi (60 cases), stomach (27), prostate (14) and large intestine (7).

Among the 136 deaths which occurred in females the most frequent sites of the disease were the breast (31 cases), stomach (20), uterus (15), large intestine (14), lungs and bronchi (12) and ovary (9).

The death rate from cancer of the luugs and bronchi was 0.49 per thousand ; for England and Wales it was 0.46. The death rate from cancer in other sites was 1.47 per thousand ; for England and Wales it was 1.68.



### **13. Sickness Claims.**

New claims for sickness benefit (excluding industrial disease or industrial injury claims) submitted to the Wolverhampton office of the Ministry of National Insurance during 1959 numbered 37,364 with a weekly average of 719 ; the most claims in a week were 2,447 and 2,320, which occurred in the weeks ending 24th and 17th of February ; the fewest claims in a week were 241 and 389 which occurred in the weeks ending 4th and 11th August. The weekly average of 719 was considerably above that of 1958 which was 608.

### **14. Cremation.**

A total of 1,623 cremations took place—an increase of 60 on last year's figure. This total included 612 persons resident in Wolverhampton, who accordingly constituted 37.7 per cent of those cremated. They represented 36 per cent of all Wolverhampton deaths.

Post-mortem examinations were carried out in 341 cases ; 212 were at the request of coroners, and of these 169 were performed by expert pathologists. Four post-mortem examinations made at the request of the medical referee were all performed by expert pathologists. On no occasion was cremation refused.

## **C. Natural and Social Conditions.**

### **1. Situation.**

Wolverhampton stands astride a ridge which is the water-shed between the Severn and Trent ; to the east the land slopes down to and merges with the industrial area of the Black Country, and to the west it spreads out to the Shropshire plain. The highest points in the borough, about 600 feet above sea level, are in Bushbury to the north and Upper Penn to the south ; the lowest points, less than 350 feet above sea level, are in the vicinity of the airport and racecourse.

### **2. Meteorology.**

In England and Wales there have been ten years drier than 1959 in the present century but the year was distinguished by the driest and one of the most brilliant summers on record, inter-

preting summer as the period May to September. This period has almost certainly not been drier in England and Wales for more than 200 years. In Wolverhampton the rainfall recorded at the West Park amounted to 25.68 inches which is 5.59 inches less than the total for 1958 and 2.15 inches or 8 per cent less than the average annual rainfall calculated over the sixty-two years during which records have been kept by the department.

Rain was measured on 155 days, and the highest rainfall for a twenty-four hour period was recorded for the 10th August when the amount was 1.84 inches of which approximately 1.5 inches had fallen in the five hour period, 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. The second highest rainfall for one day was 1.64 inches measured for the 16th April. The wettest months were April, November and December with 3.45, 3.36 and 3.90 inches respectively (April had been the driest month in 1957—0.14 inches and again 1958—0.66 inches). An entry of 0.95 inches was made for the 25th November, and in December rainfall was recorded on 25 days; 0.90 inches fell during the Christmas period (24th to 27th December). October, November and December were three wet months with a total rainfall of 10.17 inches.

The rainfall for the summer months of May, June, July, August and September amounted to only 6.87 inches and was recorded on forty-two days. (In the previous year, rain fell on eighty-nine days during the same period and totalled 17.09 inches). Of the 6.87 inches, 1.84 inches were measured for one day (August 10th); again, 0.70 inches was recorded for the 21st August although the total figure for the month was only 2.87 inches. June's total was 1.52 inches of which 0.72 fell during the last week-end of the month; July's figure was 1.67 inches of which a total of 1.31 inches was entered against the four days, 26th to 29th. September was the driest month of the year; rain fell on only three days and amounted to 0.23 inches of which 0.16 was recorded on the 21st. No rainfall was measured during the period 22nd August to 16th September (inclusive)—a dry spell of twenty-six days, which was an official period of drought. Again, a warm, dry period was experienced from the 26th September to 9th October (inclusive)—fourteen days. The rainfall for May was only 0.58 inches, and fell on eight days.



The hottest day of the year was the 6th July when a shade temperature of  $83.0^{\circ}$  was recorded. During July and August, the shade temperature was over  $80^{\circ}$  on five and two occasions respectively. Shade temperatures of over  $70^{\circ}$  were registered on sixty-four occasions during the period May to October (inclusive).

Minimum temperatures below freezing point numbered forty, of which twenty-three were recorded in January; eleven of these latter entries were consecutive (from the 6th to 16th inclusive). The lowest temperatures recorded for the year were  $16^{\circ}$  and  $17^{\circ}$  on the 15th and 16th January respectively. The maximum temperatures registered from the 6th to 16th were all below forty—in fact below  $32^{\circ}$  on the 14th and 15th ( $28^{\circ}$  and  $30^{\circ}$  respectively). Snow was recorded on seven days during the month and no further snow fell during the remainder of the year. The rainfall (including melted snow) for January was 2.99 inches. February was a very dry month; rain fell on only four days and totalled 0.26 inches, of which 0.15 was measured for the 21st. The first thirteen days of the month were dry and cold, but temperatures rose a few degrees in the second half. Compared with the previous year, March was a much warmer month, and was wetter than average with a rainfall of 1.94 inches.

### 3. Water Supply.

The Wolverhampton Corporation Undertaking supplies a population of about 324,500 (compared with 264,950 in 1958) in Wolverhampton and some surrounding districts and obtains its water from several sources. These, and the quantity taken from them in 1959 are :—

	Gallons a day.
Cosford Works—river	1,977,000
Cosford Works—well	2,076,000
Tettenhall Works,—boreholes	1,018,000
Dimmingsdale Works—boreholes	2,442,000
Hilton Works—boreholes	3,018,000
Stableford Works—boreholes	1,381,000
Bratch Works—well	2,045,000
Tomhill Works—borehole	1,361,000
Goldthorn Hill Works—well	—
Purchased	225,000

The total hardness, in milligrams per litre, varies from 97 at Tomhill Works to 680 at the Stableford Works. The water from Stableford is not however supplied to consumers unmixed with other water and the highest hardness of water supplied to consumers is 370.

The figures for fluorides as milligrams of fluorine per litre are as follows :—

Cosford Works—River Worfe—	
filtered water	0.12
Cosford Works—well	0.07
Tettenhall Works	0.03
Dimmingsdale Works	0.08
Hilton Works	0.05
Bratch Works	0.05
Tomhill Works	0.03

Of 552 samples of water going into distribution and subjected to bacteriological examination, 540 did not contain any coliform organisms per 100 ml.

Of 366 samples of water taken from the distribution system and subjected to bacteriological examination, 339 contained no coliform organisms per 100 ml.

#### 4. Occupations.

The employed population of the Wolverhampton area is distributed in the following proportions among the three major groupings.

Extractive industries	
(e.g. agriculture, coalmining)	1.5%
Manufacturing industries	57.5%
Provision of services	
(including transport, power, building etc.)	41.0%

The greatest concentration of employees is found in the manufacturing industries, and within this group the majority (45% of the total employed population) are employed in the four industries—vehicles, engineering, metal goods, and metal manufacture.



There has been no significant change in the information supplied in the 1958 report listing the principal industries according to numbers employed.

### **5. Unemployment.**

The year 1959 opened with a relatively high rate of unemployment for this area of 2.2%, which compares with the national rate of that time of 2.8%. There was, however, a rise in industrial activity in the early Spring which gathered momentum and continued without reverse throughout the year, with the result that by the end of the year unemployment had been reduced to 0.9% compared with the national rate of 1.9%. An indication of the rate of increase in the demand for workers is given by comparing the number of vacancies notified to the Employment Exchange and remaining unfilled at the beginning and end of the year. In January there were 352 vacancies outstanding, and in December 813.

Although the demand for workers in some occupations has continued throughout the year, and although some categories of unskilled workers still find it difficult to obtain employment, the general situation has changed in the 12 months from a shortage of work to a shortage of workers.

## **SECTION II**

### **HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.**

#### **A. Hospital, Specialist and Allied Services.**

##### **1. Hospitals.**

The Wolverhampton Hospital Management Committee is responsible for institutions and clinics in an area extending from Wolverhampton to Bridgnorth, Much Wenlock, Broseley and Shifnal, with an estimated population of 355,000. The institutions contain 2,065 beds ; of these, 1,779 are in Wolverhampton, including 400 beds in "The Poplars," where the Management Committee

provides serviced accommodation for the use of aged non-sick people, and 80 beds in the Reception Centre which also are serviced by the Hospital Management Committee. Both "The Poplars" and the Reception Centre are adjacent to New Cross Hospital. The net cost of maintaining the 15 hospitals and clinics in the group including the salaries and travelling expenses of Senior Medical Staff paid direct by the Regional Hospital Board amounted to £1,422,000 for the year ended 31st March, 1959.

The following 1,299 hospital beds are in Wolverhampton :—

New Cross Hospital	624
Royal Hospital	313
Women's Hospital and Annexe	90
Parkfields Hospital	66
Queen Victoria Nursing Institute	43
Children's Hospital, Penn	30
Women's Convalescent Hospital, Penn	13
Eye Infirmary	103
Beeches Maternity Home	17

In addition to providing hospital facilities for Wolverhampton, these beds meet almost all the hospital requirements of the Borough of Bilston and the Urban Districts of Tettenhall, Wednesfield and Willenhall. They also constitute the main provision of hospital accommodation for the Urban District of Coseley and the Rural District of Seisdon.

## 2. Sanatoria.

The Parkfields Hospital contains 54 beds for tuberculous patients and only 12 beds now are allocated to the treatment of infectious diseases. There is no sanatorium accommodation in the area built specially for the treatment of tuberculosis, and pulmonary cases usually receive treatment at Prestwood or Himley; cases requiring long-stay orthopædic treatment usually obtain it at Oswestry or Yardley Green Hospital, Birmingham.

## 3. Chest Clinic.

The centrally situated Clinic in Bell Street provides facilities for following up cases of chronic chest disorders in Wolverhampton and district.



Diagnostic out-patient clinics for chest conditions are held at the Royal Hospital and at New Cross Hospital, where twice-weekly radiography sessions without appointment provide an X-ray exclusion service for general practitioners.

#### **4. Venereal Diseases Clinic.**

This is situated at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and serves both Wolverhampton and the surrounding district.

#### **5. Nursing Homes.**

The only private maternity home contains fourteen beds, and the only private nursing home contains two beds.

#### **6. Bacteriology.**

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, and at the Pathological Laboratory of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. Most specimens from the health department must still be sent to Stafford at considerable inconvenience because the establishment of a much needed Public Health Laboratory in Wolverhampton continues to be delayed.

### **B. Local Executive Council Services.**

#### **1. General Medical Service.**

At the end of March, 1960, there were 151,479 people recorded as living in Wolverhampton on doctors' lists; this number is about 3.7 per cent above the Registrar General's estimate of the population. Their medical care was undertaken by 134 principal and 10 assistant medical practitioners, 60 of whom live within the Borough. There are 60 surgeries within the Borough from which doctors practise. Doctors practising single handedly or with an assistant were 33 per cent of all doctors under contract with the Executive Council, 36 per cent were in two-handed partnerships, 22 per cent were in three-handed partnerships and 9 per cent were in four-handed partnerships.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1960, was £213,593 equivalent to 29s. 3d. a head of the population of 146,100 living in Wolverhampton.



## **2. Pharmaceutical Service.**

At the end of March, 1960, there were under contract and in the Borough of Wolverhampton, 43 pharmacists, 6 surgical appliance suppliers and 1 drug store. The executive Council tests the dispensing of all these contractors over a period of 2 years and in the year under review 22 drug tests and 5 appliance tests were made.

The cost of this service to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March, 1960, was £226,512 and to the patients £42,914 being equivalent to 31s. 0d. and 5s. 10d. a head per annum respectively.

## **3. Dental Service.**

At the end of March, 1960, there were 39 principal and 2 assistant dental practitioners in the Executive Council's list; of these, 23 were practising single handedly.

The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March, 1960, was £173,897 and to the patients £46,521 being equivalent to 23s. 10d. and 6s. 4d. a head per annum respectively.

## **4. Ophthalmic Service.**

The service enables the patient to have his sight tested by either an Ophthalmic Medical Practitioner or an Ophthalmic Optician and then, if glasses are necessary, to have them provided either by an Ophthalmic Optician or a Dispensing Optician. There were at the end of March under contract with the Ophthalmic Services Committee, 7 principal and 1 assistant Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners, 15 Ophthalmic Opticians and 9 Dispensing Opticians. Dr. N. A. Jevons, Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, is one of the Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners and prescribes spectacles for school children who require them.

The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March, 1960, was £46,438 and to the patients £26,067 being equivalent to 6s. 4d. and 3s. 7d. a head per annum respectively.

## **5. General.**

The cost of administration for the year ending 31st March, 1960, was £9,593 equivalent to 1s. 4d. a head of the population. The total cost of the service, therefore, was £670,033 equivalent to £4 10s. 8d. a head of the population. In addition the direct contribution made by the patients was £115,501 equivalent to 15s. 8d. a head of the population.

### **C. Local Authority Health Service.**

#### **1. Care of Mothers and Children.**

##### **(a) Births and still-births.**

There were 2,350 infants born alive during the year to parents normally resident in Wolverhampton ; of these infants 1,188 were born at home and 1,162 in institutions. The still-births numbered 56 and of these 16 were born at home and 40 in institutions.

The percentage of these births which took place at home in 1956, 1957, 1958 and 1959 were 49, 51, 54 and 50 respectively.

##### **(b) Ante-natal Facilities.**

At the end of the year, 9 ante-natal clinics were conducted each week by medical officers (all of whom are full-time members of the Health Department) with the assistance of midwives. There is no specialist ante-natal clinic, but cases requiring a second opinion are referred through the general practitioner to the consultant clinics at New Cross Hospital or the Women's Hospital. Blood examinations for the Rhesus factor and the Wasserman test are carried out at the ante-natal clinics on all expectant mothers. Instruction in mothercraft is given at the Infant Welfare Centres, and to a lesser extent at the ante-natal clinics.

Unmarried mothers are interviewed and given any help which may be required, including if necessary admission ante-natally to a mother and baby home. Arrangements are made with the medical officers of the health department for blood tests to be done, and the ante-natal care of the patient is undertaken either by the clinic or by her own doctor.



Maternity outfits are issued at all clinics to patients on the presentation of a note from either the general practitioner or the domiciliary midwife. In addition, each midwife retains two maternity outfits in her own home for use in emergency, and these are renewed as they are used. As 1,366 maternity packs were issued in 1959 all patients confined at home appear to have received them.

Ante-natal clinics, at which midwives are present, were attended by 2,758 women, of whom 1,954 were new cases, and an average of 3.5 visits was made by each patient. The new cases again far exceed the number of domiciliary confinements and are equivalent to 83 per cent of all confinements, both domiciliary and institutional, of Wolverhampton residents.

**(c) Post-natal Care.**

A weekly post-natal clinic conducted by a hospital specialist is provided by the Health Department at Lowe Street Welfare Centre; in addition post-natal examinations are carried out by the general practitioner and at the hospital post-natal clinics. Only a small proportion of mothers confined at home subsequently attend the Lowe Street Clinic; new cases attending in 1958 were 38 compared with 41 the previous year. The number of attendances was 109.

**(d) Family Planning Clinic.**

Married women referred by medical practitioners are admitted to the clinic held weekly at Lowe Street Welfare Centre where they are advised on methods of birth control. In the years 1957, 1958 and 1959 women attending for the first time numbered 43, 78 and 83 respectively, and the corresponding numbers of attendances were 719, 724 and 921 respectively.

**(e) Child Welfare Centres.**

Each week 13 sessions are held for infants and toddlers at 8 centres. Immunisation against diphtheria, poliomyelitis and whooping cough, vaccination against smallpox and tuberculin patch tests are carried out at these clinics. Approximately 76 per cent of children under one year of age in the town attended them.



Minor ailments of children under school age are treated by arrangement at the minor ailment clinics of the School Health Service, and in addition, special pædiatric, orthopædic and ultra-violet light clinics are held jointly with that Service.

The pædiatric clinic, to which children in need of specialist advice may be referred from the infant welfare centres, is held fortnightly.

The orthopædic clinic, to which children with minor deformities are sent from the welfare centres, is held weekly. After examination by the orthopædic surgeon, the prescribed treatment is carried out by a physiotherapist, who attends the clinic daily. During the year 287 attendances were made by 258 children of whom 157 were attending for the first time.

The ultra-violet light clinic is held twice weekly and children suffering from conditions likely to benefit are referred to it from the welfare centres. During the year 26 cases made 145 attendances.

The average cost of welfare centres per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales for 1958/59 was £85 5s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £97 13s. 0d.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, 1959.

	Oxley	Lea Road	Lowe Street	Park Lane	St. Oswalds	St. Martins	Ward Street	Masefield Road	Totals
INFANTS.									
No. of sessions ...	98	101	49	99	104	52	100	48	651
New cases under 1 year ...	252	341	243	362	230	87	227	98	1,840
Attendances under 1 year ...	2,706	3,545	1,776	3,319	2,481	1,123	2,385	948	18,283
Attendances over 1 year ...	1,451	866	454	520	1,010	238	887	207	5,633
Total attendances ...	4,157	4,411	2,230	3,839	3,491	1,361	3,272	1,155	23,916
Average attendances per session ...	42.4	43.7	45.5	38.8	33.6	26.2	32.7	24.1	36.7
ANTE-NATAL.									
No. of sessions ...	48	100	50	49	52	52	52	48	451
New cases ...	247	335	313	300	197	162	253	147	1,954
Total attendances ...	1,315	1,526	1,434	1,352	1,034	890	1,204	782	9,537
Average attendances per session ...	27.4	15.3	28.7	27.6	19.9	17.2	23.2	16.3	21.1

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

(Lowe Street)			
No. of sessions ...	52	...	...
New cases ...	38	...	...
Total attendances ...	109	...	...
Average per session ...	2.1	...	...

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.

(Lowe Street)			
No. of sessions ...	...	...	48
New cases ...	...	...	83
Total attendances ...	...	...	921
Average per session ...	...	...	19.2

**(f) Infant Deaths.**

There were 57 deaths of children under 5 years ; of these, 51 failed to survive the first year, and of these 37 failed to survive the first month ; 34 died in the first week. The causes of death are given below :—

Cause of Death.				Days. 0—7	Weeks. 1—4	Months. 1—12	Years. 1—4
Congenital malformations	...			7	1	3	1
Umbilical cord around neck							
at birth	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Difficult breech birth	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Immaturity	...	...	...	9	—	1	—
Intracranial and spinal injury							
at birth, with immaturity	...			5	—	—	—
Intracranial and spinal injury							
at birth, without immaturity				5	—	—	—
Hæmorrhagic disease of newborn,							
with immaturity	...	...		1	—	—	—
Hæmorrhagic disease of newborn,							
without immaturity	...	...		1	—	—	—
Hæmolytic disease of newborn,							
without immaturity	...			2	—	—	—
Postnatal asphyxia and							
atelectasis, with immaturity				1	—	—	—
Postnatal asphyxia and							
atelectasis, without							
immaturity	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Volvulus	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
Staphylococcal skin infection,							
with immaturity	...	...		—	1	—	—
Infantile enteritis	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	—	4	1
Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Miliary tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Otitis media	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Status epilepticus	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia (accidental)	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Asphyxia from sleeping in bed							
with her mother	...	...		—	—	1	—
Fall from cot	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Totals	...			34	3	14	6



**(g) Premature Infants.**

The premature baby nurse visits all premature infants in their homes, the frequency of her visits depending on their weight and condition; special cots and equipment are lent from the Health Department by the premature baby nurse.

All infants weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less born at home or in nursing homes are notified to the premature baby nurse on the day of birth. General practitioners usually arrange for babies weighing less than 4 lbs. to be admitted to a premature baby unit at the Women's Hospital (Wolverhampton), Hallam Hospital (West Bromwich) or Sorrento Hospital (Birmingham) and special equipment is kept at the ambulance depot for use in transporting them.

During the year, 168 babies were born alive weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less to mothers normally resident in Wolverhampton and 145 of them survived 28 days. Of these 168 babies, 52 were born at home, 3 in private nursing homes and 113 in National Health Service hospitals; 14 of the babies born at home were transferred subsequently to hospital and the remaining 38 were nursed entirely at home.

The birth weight (column I) of all premature babies born alive at home (column II), the number of these nursed entirely at home (column III) and the number surviving 28 days (column IV) are shown in the following table :—

I	II	III	IV
3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less	8	2	2
3 lbs. 4 ozs.—4 lbs. 6 ozs.	8	5	7
4 lbs. 6 ozs.—4 lbs. 15 ozs.	6	4	6
4 lbs. 15 ozs.—5 lbs. 8 ozs.	30	27	29
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 38	<hr/> 44

Of the 38 babies nursed entirely at home 37 survived the first 28 days, as did all 3 babies born in private nursing homes.

The premature baby nurse paid 1,122 visits to babies born at home and to babies discharged from hospital or nursing homes.

No case of retrolental fibroplasia was notified.

**(h) Illegitimate Children.**

There were 195 illegitimate children born alive during the year; there were also 6 illegitimate stillbirths. This total of 201 illegitimate live and stillbirths represents 8.1 per cent of all live and stillbirths. The local authority makes grants to the Legge Home and the Hay Home of £400 and £100 annually respectively. When required, patients are admitted to Diocesan Moral Welfare or Roman Catholic or Salvation Army Homes; necessary financial assistance is provided to meet the charges.

During the year the help of the Health Department was sought in 80 cases (69 being new cases) and 31 of them were accommodated in mother and baby homes.

The average cost of mother and baby homes per thousand population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1958/59 was £5 16s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £4 3s. 0d.

**(i) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Five cases were notified, 4 by general practitioners and one by Parkfields Hospital. Three of the children had been born at home and 2 in a nursing home. All recovered.

**(j) Supply of Welfare Foods.**

At the end of the year the distribution centres for welfare foods in Wolverhampton comprised the main centre at the Health Department, all clinics, 11 shops in various parts of the Borough where the proprietors granted facilities, and the Community Centre at Low Hill.

In addition to the welfare foods supplied under the Government Welfare Food Scheme, proprietary brands of infant foods and nutrients are obtainable at all clinics if they have been prescribed.

At the end of the year the staff consisted of the Organiser, 2 assistants and 4 part-time workers.

Below is a summary of the issues of Government Welfare Foods made during each quarter of the year :—

Quarter ended.	National dried milk. Tins.	Cod liver oil. Bottles.	A. & D. tablets. Packets.	Orange juice. Bottles.	Total.
28. 3.59	15,987	3,143	2,248	19,476	40,854
27. 6.59	15,616	2,751	2,109	22,973	43,449
26. 9.59	15,671	2,351	2,051	23,099	43,172
26.12.59	15,049	2,565	2,031	17,343	36,988
<b>Total for 1959</b>	62,323	10,810	8,439	82,891	164,463
<b>Total for 1958</b>	68,755	10,685	8,288	79,592	167,320

#### (k) Dental Care.

The Principal Dental Officer reports that during the year the priority service for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children continued to be provided by the authority's dental officers devoting a part of their time to these patients. The equivalent of 359 half days was spent on their work. The additional evening sessions continued to be popular with many patients who find it more convenient to attend at a time when their husbands are at home to take charge of the family.

The service for pre-school children is provided on request and although all forms of treatment are available the demand is in the main for the relief of toothache.

The following were provided with dental care :—

	Examined.	Needing treatment.	Treated.	Made dentally fit.
Mothers	396	393	320	112
Children	439	428	412	1



The following forms of dental treatment were provided :—

	Mothers.	Children.
Scaling and gum treatment	125	6
Fillings	439	70
Silver nitrate treatment	—	15
Crowns and inlays	7	—
Extractions	1,370	706
General anæsthetics	198	388
Dentures provided :—		
Full upper or lower	105	—
Partial upper or lower	98	—
Radiographs	45	—

### (1) Day Nurseries.

The day nurseries at Bushbury Road and Birmingham Road have accommodation for 75 children and 40 children respectively, and both provide facilities for the training of nursery students for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board.

The charge is 2/- each day for children in the priority group, which includes the children of widows, widowers, unmarried mothers and separated or divorced parents ; children from families in which the mother is ill, the father unemployed, incapacitated or in the Forces and cases referred by the pædiatrician. The charges for other cases, which are admitted with the consent of the Health Committee, vary with the means of the parents, with a maximum of 8/- a day.

The following is a summary of the attendances at the nurseries during the year.

	Bushbury Road.	Birmingham Road.
Number of days open	252	252
Attendances under 2 years	3,395	2,154
Attendances 2-5 years	8,412	6,216
Average daily attendance under 2 years	13.5	8.5
Average daily attendance 2-5 years	33.4	24.7

The average daily attendances of all ages at Bushbury Road was 46.9 and at Birmingham Road 33.2 ; in the previous year these figures were 48.5 and 31.7 respectively. During the past year the total attendance at the two day nurseries has decreased from 20,215 to 20,177 with 58.5 per cent at Bushbury Road and 41.5 per cent at Birmingham Road.

The average cost of day nurseries per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1958-1959 was £85 6s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £98 14s. 0d.

## **2. Midwifery.**

### **(a) General Provisions.**

During the year 3,944 confinements took place in the borough ; of these 1,235 were in the mother's home, 2,461 were in Hospital Management Committee institutions and 248 in private nursing homes.

Notifications of intention to practise midwifery in Wolverhampton were received from :—

(i) Midwives in Management Committee Institutions	36
(ii) Municipal midwives	20
(iii) Domiciliary midwives (private)	2
(iv) Midwives in private nursing homes	6
(v) Maternity nurses in the Queen Victoria Nursing Institution	11

Supervision is exercised by the Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare in her capacity as medical supervisor, and by the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives.

### **(b) Municipal Midwives.**

At the end of the year the staff consisted of the Non-Medical Supervisor, 20 midwives and a premature baby nurse. The midwives attended 1,077 cases as midwives and 155 cases as maternity nurses ; the doctor being present at 12 per cent of deliveries.

Altogether 26,200 visits were paid by midwives to women delivered at home including 4,278 ante-natal visits ; in addition 798 patients discharged from hospital before the 14th day received 4,590 visits during the remainder of the lying-in period ; a further 959 visits were made for the purpose of investigating applications for hospital beds and 35 visits were made to defaulters from hospital and general practitioners clinics. Medical aid was sought by municipal midwives in 317 cases comprising 49 patients during pregnancy, 161 patients during labour, 39 patients after the birth and 68 infants.

All municipal midwives are trained to administer analgesia and every midwife has apparatus for administering trilene. Trilene was administered to 1,066 patients (87 per cent of confinements attended by municipal midwives) and pethidine was administered to 875 patients (71 per cent of confinements). Only 113 patients (9 per cent) received no form of sedation ; in 4 cases this was for medical reasons, in 7 cases the patient refused it, and in 102 cases the midwife was called too late. For the first time since 1948 no patient received gas and air which now has been replaced completely by trilene.

Municipal midwives delivered about 6 cases each month and they attend the ante-natal clinics in their area to book and examine their patients, so that each patient meets not only the midwife who probably will look after her but also the relief midwife ; in addition the midwife visits the patient's home at least twice, once early in pregnancy to ascertain that it is suitable for a domiciliary confinement, and again later in pregnancy to confirm that adequate arrangements have been made. Expectant mothers seeking admission to hospital on social grounds apply to the Health Department and subsequently they are visited in their homes by a midwife who reports on the conditions and circumstances ; the reports are considered by the Medical and Non-Medical Supervisors who then select those most urgently needing the available hospital accommodation.

In October 1959 a domiciliary midwifery night service rota was introduced with 5 midwives on call between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. Each patient is given the telephone number of a private line to the



Ambulance Centre and the Ambulance Service acts as the central depot for calls, notifying the midwife nearest to the patient who then proceeds to the call. Since the introduction of the rota one in ten of the patients has been attended by a domiciliary midwife other than the one she booked but as the service has been working under strength to the extent of 20 per cent due to vacancies and illness this cannot be accounted for altogether by the introduction of the night rota. The Royal College of Midwives approves of a night service rota, which, as far as is known, is working in 5 local health authorities. Locally it has improved the recruitment of staff and the midwives have been more contented since its introduction. It has reduced their working hours from 132 to 87 hours a week.

Five classes are held each week for instruction of the expectant mother by a midwife and a health visitor. At the same time the patients receive instruction in relaxation from a physiotherapist. The classes are held at Lea Road (twice weekly), Ward Street, Park Lane and Oxley Health Centre; 519 mothers made 3,452 attendances.

Chest X-ray examinations carried out by the Mass Radiography Unit are available for all expectant mothers.

Three midwives attended refresher courses during the year. Once more reference must be made to the absence of arrangements in Wolverhampton for providing pupil midwives with Part II training. There are good reasons for hoping that this will be the final reference for there is every prospect of the training beginning during 1960.

The average expenditure on domiciliary midwifery per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs in England and Wales for 1958/59 was £92 19s. 0d. In Wolverhampton the expenditure was £116 13s. 0d. This figure, substantially above the average, is due to the unusually high proportion of domiciliary confinements (for which the local health authority is responsible), and the corresponding unusually low proportion of institutional confinements (for which the hospital service is responsible). This is confirmed by comparing the average cost per maternity case attended in all County Boroughs, £13 5s. 0d., with the cost per case in Wolverhampton, £11 7s. 0d.

### 3. Health Visiting.

The establishment is a Superintendent and 16 Health Visitors. At the end of the year the staff consisted of a Superintendent, 13 health visitors and 2 clinic nurses. The 2 clinic nurses were attached to the Chest Clinic and devoted most of their time to the patients attending that clinic and their contacts. In addition to instructing and advising mothers at the ante-natal and infant welfare sessions, and visiting expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age, the health visitors undertake many other duties. These include visiting cases of infectious disease, patients discharged from hospital and in need of after-care and elderly people who may require domestic and other assistance in the home. They stress the importance of immunisation and vaccination, they co-operate with hospitals and general practitioners by furnishing relevant details of home conditions and ensuring that advice and treatment are carried out. Particular attention is given to families presenting "social problems." Many visits again were paid to young workers taking part in the Medical Research Council's B.C.G. investigation which is expected to finish shortly and much time was put in on sessions devoted to poliomyelitis vaccination.

Details of the visits made during 1959 are given below :—

Expectant mothers	573
Children under 1	8,288
Children aged 1 and under 2	5,637
Children aged 2 and under 5	8,452
Tuberculous households	2,764
Other cases	1,772
	<hr/>
Total visits	27,486
	<hr/>

In addition, health visitors attended 2,605 half day sessions at the clinics.

During the course of the year, health visitors entered 20,704 households (excluding those they visited in connection with tuberculosis) and they visited 10,922 children under 5 years of age.

Two health visitors attended refresher courses during the year.

A health visitor is present at the Royal Hospital each week when the pædiatrician does a ward round, and another health visitor visits the mother and baby homes weekly to advise on feeding etc., and to give mothercraft talks.



The average cost of health visiting per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales for the year 1958/59 was £82 4s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £72 7s. 0d.

#### 4. Home Nursing.

At the end of the year the staff consisted of a Superintendent, 12 full-time state registered nurses, 2 full-time state enrolled assistant nurses and 6 part-time state registered nurses.

All general practitioners in the area use the service; they either telephone to the Superintendent informing her of the patient's requirements, or leave a note with relatives instructing them to deliver it to the Health Department. When a patient about to be discharged from hospital will require nursing treatment after returning home, the hospital almoner usually notifies the home nurses in advance. The number of new cases attended by the nurses, 1,577, was substantially more than in the previous year, and the total number of visits was over 10 per cent greater. A summary of the work of the nurses is given below :—

Cases on Register at 1.1.59.	New Cases.	Total Visits.	Cases on Register at 31.12.59.
245	1,577	46,529	285

The nature and number of the cases and the number of visits they received were :—

Cases.	Number.	Visits.
Medical	1,267	34,694
Surgical	329	9,074
Tuberculous	33	2,111
Maternity (complications)	1	11
Other	192	639
Total	1,822	46,529

Children under 5 years of age (2.9 per cent of all patients) received 1 per cent of all visits with an average of 9 visits a case; patients between 5 and 64 years of age (44.1 per cent of all patients)



received 37 per cent of all visits with an average of 21 visits a case ; patients of 65 years of age and over (53 per cent of all patients) received 62 per cent of all visits with an average of 30 visits a case.

In the last six years the number of children visited by the home nurses has fallen substantially resulting in children declining from 8 per cent to 3 per cent of all patients ; this change probably is associated with the increasing administration of penicillin by mouth instead of injections given by the home nurses. The rapid decline in the number of visits paid to tuberculous patients continued during the year, when the number of visits was 28 per cent less than in the year before ; in 1955 these visits numbered 12,923 and in successive years they have been 7,011, 4,088, 2,951 and 2,111 respectively.

Much of the work of the home nurses involves the administration of drugs by injection and during the year they made 9,213 visits to give injections to 383 patients. The largest group of injections, 4,230, were of insulin given to 35 patients ; 1,648 were of streptomycin given to 43 patients ; and the remaining 3,335 injections given to 305 patients consisted largely of antibiotic, diuretic and vitamin drugs.

In the financial year 1958/59, the home nursing service in Wolverhampton cost £83 1s. 0d. per thousand population ; the average for the 83 County Boroughs in England and Wales was £129 10s. 0d.

## **5. Vaccination and Immunisation.**

### **(a) Vaccination against Smallpox.**

During the year 1,008 persons were vaccinated and 38 re-vaccinated. Of those vaccinated, 932 were under one year old and of those re-vaccinated 35 were 15 years old and over. Medical officers of the local authority carried out 616 of the 1,046 vaccinations and re-vaccinations.

There were 2,417 infants born alive during the year and the 932 vaccinations under one year old represented 39 per cent of these births.

**(b) Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

A total of 2,068 children were immunised against diphtheria during the year. Private practitioners carried out 563 of the immunisations and 1,505 were done by medical officers of the local authority in schools, clinics and day nurseries. In addition, reinforcement doses were given to 2,809 children mostly in schools. The estimated percentage of the child population immunised against diphtheria is :—

(i) under one year old	51.5 per cent
(ii) 1—4 years old	57.8 per cent
(iii) 5—14 years old	67.1 per cent
(iv) total, under 15	63.6 per cent

**(c) Immunisation against Whooping Cough.**

This is available at all clinics where 810 children received it. A further 482 children are known to have been immunised by general practitioners. Of this total of 1,292 children, 1,265 were immunised with a combined antigen and 27 with pertussis vaccine alone.

**(d) B.C.G. Vaccination.**

During the year B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered to all 13 year old pupils in Secondary Schools. Consent forms were issued to the parents of 2,459 children ; there were 1,959 acceptances (79 per cent) and of these 1,373 were vaccinated. The proportion of the Mantoux tests which were positive when read was 11.8 per cent.

Those not vaccinated numbered 586 and comprised :—

Absentees	193
Unsuitable for testing	48
Positive Mantoux test	195
Not read	70
Negative, not vaccinated	80

In addition 3 sessions were held for absentees and older children where 274 Mantoux tests were completed, 22 or 8 per cent of them being positive and 247 were vaccinated ; 25 students



attending Further Education Establishments were also tested and 8 (32 per cent) were found positive and the remaining 17 were vaccinated bringing the total number of vaccinations in 1959 by local authority medical officers to 1,637.

At Dr. Aspin's request 105 contacts included in the acceptances were X-rayed and Mantoux tested prior to being referred to the Chest Clinic where B.C.G. vaccination was given under his supervision to suitable cases. These were in addition to the 1,637 previously mentioned.

All children found to be Mantoux or Heaf test positive during 1959 were referred to New Cross Hospital for chest X-ray. Five showed a healed primary complex and one of these had a residual bronchiectasis ; one child had a small area of fibrosis in the left upper lobe, subsequently developed a pleural effusion and is now well and back at school. There were no other 13 year old children notified as suffering from tuberculosis in 1959.

In addition to the vaccination offered to school leavers 639 contacts were examined under the hospital service including the 105 contacts of school age referred to above. Of these 639 contacts, 625 had a test completed of which 155 (25 per cent) were positive. Of those found negative 452 were vaccinated.

#### **(e) Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

During the year 9,366 children received their third injection, 6,833 received the second injection and 5,851 received the first injection bringing the total number of such vaccinations to 10,055, 21,286 and 22,027 respectively ; 87 expectant mothers received their third injection, 831 received the second injection and 1,236 received the first injection bringing the total of such vaccinations to 87, 1,152 and 1,649 respectively ; 284 young adults aged 15 to 25 received their third injection, 7,401 received the second injection and 9,780 received the first injection bringing the total of such vaccinations to 284, 7,402 and 9,781 respectively ; in addition 26 general practitioners and their families and ambulance personnel received their first and second injections.



The expenditure in Wolverhampton on vaccination and immunisation per 1,000 population for 1958/59 was £9 16s. 0d. The average expenditure for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales was £24 9s. 0d.

## **6. Ambulance Service.**

The service has a staff of 36 and a fleet of 18 vehicles consisting of 15 ambulances, 2 sitting case cars and a mortuary van. The number of calls, 49,381 was 8.6 per cent more than in the previous year, and the total mileage was 186,240. Of the total calls 2.5 per cent were to accidents and 2.3 per cent to emergencies.

The average cost of the ambulance service per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1958/59 was £218 8s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £215 17s. 0d.

## **7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.**

### **(a) Tuberculosis.**

Chest Physicians are employed jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the Town Council. In pursuance of the Council's duties relating to the prevention of tuberculosis, the chest physicians are concerned with the welfare of contacts, and arrangements exist for them to administer B.C.G. vaccine although in the case of juvenile contacts this often is done by the pædiatrician. The local health authority paid the equivalent of 3/11ths or 27 per cent of the salary of one chest physician; following the resignation of Dr. Powell David it was decided to reduce the medical staff at the Chest Clinic, and the local authority in future will pay the equivalent of 22 per cent of the salary of one chest physician.

Tuberculosis has certain distinguishing characteristics. Firstly, in most cases it is a disease in which the treatment though dramatically shortened during recent years, still takes much longer than that of most other illnesses so that the effects on the life of the patient and his family are more far reaching. Secondly, it is an infectious disease in which the process of passing on the infection is slower and more insidious than is the case with other infectious diseases so that the isolation of the patient and the tracing of

contacts is more difficult ; in addition the provision of good food, satisfactory living conditions and freedom from anxiety are especially important in overcoming the infection. Thirdly, although most patients now recover sufficiently within a year to return to work they must avoid undue strain and heavy manual work to prevent a further breakdown and probably the biggest problem is helping them to find suitable work ; professional, clerical and skilled manual workers have little difficulty but semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers often have to wait some time before finding a job, while a hard core remains of older men, often with additional disabilities, who have never done any but heavy manual work ; in some cases they lose hope of returning to work even though there may be a good number of years before they reach retiring age.

Tuberculosis is thus seen to be in rather a special category although families where one or more members suffer from some other disease have to face their own special problems and probably would welcome help ; so far the work with non-tuberculous patients has been limited almost entirely to the arrangement of convalescence.

Of the 95 tuberculous patients referred in 1958 as being fit for work 17 had not been placed in employment at the end of 1959 ; of the 78 who had been placed in employment, 68 were known to be well and still at work, 2 were absent through illness, 1 was unemployed, 1 had retired, 3 were housewives who had given up paid employment, 2 had left the district and in one case the result was not known. Only 12 of the 75 patients referred in 1959 had not been placed in employment by the end of the year ; of the 63 in employment, 34 had returned to the previous employer, 19 had found new employment for themselves, 3 were placed in employment after admission to industrial rehabilitation units and 1 after admission to a private training school, 3 had been placed directly in employment by the Disablement Resettlement Officer and 2 by the Youth Employment Bureau, and 1 patient continued in her previous post.



During the year the After-Care Officer dealt with 257 cases ; financial help was obtained for 76, clothing grants for 32, bedding and bedding grants for 11 and free milk for 99. Help was given with housing problems in 36 cases, holidays were arranged in 4 cases, occupational therapy classes were provided in 9 cases and various types of help given in 17 cases.

A further generous donation of £105 was given by the “ Joe Birch Memorial Cup Fund ” and was most useful in supplementing help from statutory sources.

**(b) Other Illness.**

The work with non-tuberculous patients still consists chiefly of arranging for admission to convalescent homes when this cannot be arranged through other channels ; the patients are asked to contribute towards the cost according to their means. The following details refer to cases dealt with during the year :—

Applications received			85
Sent to convalescent homes	Adults	65	
	Children	3	68
		—	
Referred back to hospital			2
Referred to Patient's Aid Association			2
Too ill to go			3
Made own arrangements			1
Withdrew application			9
			—
			85

A supply of equipment is available for lending to patients nursed at home, who are required to pay a deposit which is refunded on the return of the equipment in good condition. During the year, equipment was provided for 416 patients nursed at home.

**(c) Laundry Service.**

The home nursing service attends a number of incontinent patients who either cannot provide bed linen or are unable to arrange to have it washed, and in November a laundry service was introduced for such patients. A stock of bed linen has been obtained by the Health Department, and this is issued to incontinent patients through the district nursing service. These sheets



when soiled are returned to the Health Department by the district nurses and sent to the laundry provided by the Children Department at the Cottage Homes, Wednesfield. In the period 7th November to 31st December, 340 draw sheets and 9 large sheets were issued to patients.

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The average cost of prevention, care and after-care of tuberculosis per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1958-59 was £23 15s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £17 9s. 0d.

The average cost of the services for other illness per 1,000 population in the 83 County Boroughs in England and Wales was £23 14s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £5 2s. 0d.

### 8. Domestic Help.

At the end of the year there were 9 whole time and 66 half-time workers, and in addition 2 part-time workers employed for two hours daily; this staff represents a decrease of 4 whole time and an increase of 15 half-time workers in a year. The 898 cases assisted by the home helps during the year comprised :—

Maternity (including expectant mothers)	114
Tuberculosis	1
Chronic Sick (including aged and infirm)	541
Problem families	1
Others	241

The organiser investigates the conditions in every case before domestic help is sent and subsequently she pays weekly visits; during the year she paid 3,207 visits. In January 334 patients classed as "chronic sick" were receiving regular weekly help and the number had increased to 418 by December. Most of them are enabled to continue living in their own homes by the domestic help which they receive. They are encouraged to undertake some of the lighter duties themselves, although this increases the burden on the individual home help who is left with the heaviest and dirtiest work in every household where often there are no labour-saving devices or even household equipment.

A home help continued to visit a problem family throughout the year.

In the financial year 1958-59 the domestic help service in Wolverhampton cost £91 7s. 0d. per thousand population; the average for the 83 County Boroughs in England and Wales was £147 12s. 0d.

## **9. Health Education.**

An annual contribution of £82 10s. 0d. is made to the Central Council for Health Education and one of five guineas to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Poster boards in various parts of the town are used for the display of topics supplied by the Central Council for Health Education. Pamphlets prepared by the Central Council on a variety of subjects including measles, influenza and common colds are distributed in the clinics. The parents of all school leavers are advised of the desirability of accepting B.C.G. vaccination when it is necessary.

Health Education is one of the chief duties of health visitors who constantly advise mothers on the management, feeding and clothing of children, the dangers of accidents, and the importance of protecting children against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis.

The dangers of food poisoning and the importance of food storage and food preparation continue to be stressed in talks given by members of the staff to various organisations in the town.

## **10. Mental Health.**

### **(a) Administration.**

The Health (Mental Health) Sub-Committee meets monthly and delegates no duties to voluntary associations. Statistical information is placed before the Committee, reports on individual mentally subnormal patients are dealt with but no individual reports are received on cases of mental illness. The staff of the Health Department includes 1 female and 2 male mental health officers who are all duly authorised to take initial proceedings for



providing care and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness ; the female officer also deals with the administration of the Mental Deficiency Acts. The Special Training Centre has a staff of 1 supervisor, 6 assistant supervisors, 1 trainee, 2 general assistants and 2 cleaners. A panel of general practitioners is used for domiciliary visits and for the completion of medical certificates, for petitions under the Mental Deficiency Acts, domiciliary visits and renewals of orders.

Co-operation with the hospital authorities has continued. The central allocation by the Regional Hospital Board of institutional vacancies for mental defectives worked smoothly and during the year 10 patients were admitted to permanent vacancies ; of these, 3 (1 male and 2 females) over 16 years were admitted by petition ; the remaining 7 (1 male and 4 females over 16 and 2 males under 16) were admitted as "informal" patients ; admission for short periods in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 5/52 was arranged for 15 patients (8 males and 4 females under 16 years of age and 1 male and 2 females over 16 years of age). Consultant psychiatrists from St. George's Hospital, Stafford attend the out-patient psychiatric clinic at New Cross where they are responsible also for the medical supervision of patients admitted on statutory observation orders ; the consultants call upon the service of the mental health officers at out-patient clinics and readily make themselves available to advise these officers ; the regular attendance of consultants at New Cross Hospital also has made it possible to give more active out-patient treatment to people who otherwise might have been admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stafford, which is too far away for many of them to visit as out-patients. Fortnightly discussions are held at St. George's Hospital between the hospital staff and mental health officers of local authorities using the hospital.

**(b) Work undertaken in the community.**

**(i) Mental Illness.**

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act mental health officers either interviewed in the Health Department or visited in their homes 503 people who had been referred to them by general practitioners or by other departments, or who came



direct to the mental health officers seeking help and advise. These officers also paid 131 visits to former mental hospital patients and 14 were being visited regularly at the end of the year.

During the year 108 Wolverhampton residents (46 males and 62 females) were admitted for observation to New Cross Hospital, a decline of 9 patients on 1958 ; of these, 28 were discharged at the expiration of the statutory three days, 46 were detained for a further 14 days and subsequently discharged, while 22 became voluntary patients, 1 a temporary patient and 12 were certified as being of unsound mind and admitted to a mental hospital. Ten persons (1 male and 9 females) were admitted for observation to St. George's Hospital, Stafford and of these 4 accepted voluntary treatment, 1 was made a temporary patient, 1 was admitted informally and 4 were discharged. In addition 17 persons (6 males and 11 females) were certified in their own homes and received into a mental hospital. The total number of certified patients received into mental hospitals was 30 (11 males and 19 females).

During the year 41 certified patients (17 males and 24 females) were discharged from mental hospitals. Of the 17 male patients 2 were discharged to voluntary status, 1 to informal status, 1 was repatriated to Jamaica, 6 were discharged relieved and 7 died ; while of the 24 female patients 3 were discharged to voluntary status, 1 to informal status, 12 were discharged relieved and 8 died.

On the 6th October, 1959 the Minister brought into operation that part of the Mental Health Act, 1959 which permits the informal admission of patients to designated mental hospitals, registered hospitals and licensed houses. Any patient who is not unwilling to be admitted and can suitably be treated without powers of detention may now be admitted informally in the same way as general patients are admitted to general hospitals. Only in suitable cases and with the patient's consent will the local health authority be notified of these admissions and discharges, and this will affect the figures for voluntary admissions and discharges which follow.

The voluntary admissions in 1959 were 5 per cent lower than in 1958 ; 202 persons (77 males and 125 females) submitted themselves for voluntary treatment and of these, 180 were discharged (110 relieved, 57 recovered, 8 not improved, 2 discharged to informal status and 3 died). It is interesting to note that of the 202 admitted, 11 were re-admitted during the year and 40 had received previous treatment. The total number of voluntary patients discharged during the year was 227 (79 males and 148 females) and a further 11 patients (1 male and 10 females) were discharged to informal status ; 114 voluntary patients were still undergoing treatment. At the end of the year 463 Wolverhampton residents were known to be receiving treatment in mental hospitals.

As the Wolverhampton hospitals cater for an area extending considerably beyond the County Borough limits, duly authorised officers are required to institute proceedings under the Lunacy Act for persons not resident in the County Borough who may be patients within the hospitals or who have been brought there for emergency reasons, for instance following attempted suicide. These patients are not included in the figures already given for the County Borough and comprised 24 persons who were admitted for observation to New Cross Hospital of whom 12 were detained on 14 day detention orders and later discharged, 2 who were certified of unsound mind and transferred to a mental hospital, 5 who became voluntary patients, 3 who were discharged at the end of the statutory three days and 2 who died.

Age group analysis of the 108 patients admitted to observation wards and the 202 voluntary patients are given below in the two following tables :—

**Age Group Analysis of Patients admitted to  
Observation Wards.**

Sex	16-19 yrs.	20-29 yrs.	30-39 yrs.	40-49 yrs.	50-59 yrs.	60-69 yrs.	70-79 yrs.	Over 80 yrs.	All Ages.
Male	—	4	9	11	7	5	8	2	46
Female	3	12	10	10	8	7	8	4	62
Total	3	16	19	21	15	12	16	6	108



**Age Group Analysis of Voluntary Patients.**

Sex	16-19 yrs.	20-29 yrs.	30-39 yrs.	40-49 yrs.	50-59 yrs.	60-69 yrs.	70-79 yrs.	Over 80 yrs.	All Ages
Male	2	11	17	12	17	12	6	—	77
Female	4	14	24	25	26	23	9	—	125
Total	6	25	41	37	43	35	15	—	202

**(ii) Mental Subnormality.**

During the year 40 cases were ascertained by the local health authority ; 5 under 16 years of age (2 males and 3 females) and 11 over 16 years of age (4 males and 7 females) were placed under statutory supervision ; 14 under 16 years of age (8 males and 6 females) and 8 over 16 years (7 females and 1 male) were placed under voluntary supervision ; 1 male under 16 years died, and 1 male over 16 years referred by the Court was admitted to hospital. During the year 14 children under the age of 16 were admitted to the Training Centre.

During the year 6 Orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts were discharged, 6 cases died, 10 were admitted to institutions ; and 15 were admitted to short stay accommodation under the provision of Ministry of Health Circular 5/52.

The number of ascertained mental defectives known to the Health Department at the end of the year was 750, comprising the following :—

	Under 16.		Over 16.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
(i) Under Statutory Supervision	27	20	123	168	338
(ii) Under Guardianship	—	—	6	5	11
(iii) In "Places of Safety"	—	—	—	—	—
(iv) In Hospitals	9	8	90	98	205
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision	23	32	77	64	196
Total	59	60	296	335	750



This total of 750 ascertained mental defectives on the register at 31st December, 1959 was equivalent to 5.1 per thousand population.

The SPECIAL TRAINING CENTRE continues to satisfy a great need in the community care of the mentally subnormal; there were 107 on the register at the end of the year including 8 cases resident outside the Borough. One trainee aged 17 was added to the permanent staff; two students from the National Association for Mental Health diploma course were sent to the Centre for their six weeks practical training; students from Bristol and Leeds Universities on welfare and almoner courses came for visits of observation.

There were 19 new admissions which included 2 seniors, 3 juniors and 14 infant and nursery children; 2 children left on removal from the district and one child died; 15 children benefitted from a period in an institution or "short stay" home; one child was admitted to a special deaf unit for two months, but as he proved unable to benefit from the training he returned to the centre.

In view of the increased attendance a room in an adjacent building was engaged to accommodate 18 senior girls. One senior girl was found domestic employment for one day a week and 3 senior boys were employed temporarily tidying gardens; more work of this nature would be acceptable. All senior boys and girls do out-work and are paid for it; this provides a small amount of pocket money. The annual exhibition and sale of work was held in November and proved a social and financial success. There were many visitors during the year and a society of Friends of the Training Centre was formed and many gifts of toys, books and puzzles were received. During the summer the older children enjoyed a day at Church Stretton where they had lunch at a restaurant and roamed the hills; those too young to be taken had a party at the Centre.

The average cost of training centres per thousand population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1958-59 was £51 12s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £44 9s. 0d.

The average cost of other mental health services for the 83 County Boroughs was £31 2s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £5 4s. 0d.

### **11. Care of the Aged and Infirm.**

The National Assistance Act provides for persons who, being seriously ill or being aged, infirm, or incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to obtain proper care and attention. Action can be taken by the local authority if the medical officer of health certifies that it is necessary to remove such persons either in their own interests or for preventing injury or serious nuisance to others.

During the year 7 cases (6 females and 1 male all over 70 years of age) were brought to the notice of the Health Department. Three of these voluntarily entered accommodation provided under Part III of the National Assistance Act, and 2 agreed to enter hospital. Arrangements were made for the remaining 2 to be nursed satisfactorily at home.

### **12. Epileptics.**

Only 17 epileptics have registered under the Council's scheme under the National Assistance Act and they represent probably no more than five per cent of the epileptics in Wolverhampton. Six epileptic children of school age are in special schools and several other epileptic children who do not need special education attend ordinary schools. Among mental defectives who are not in institutions 41 children are known to be epileptic and 10 of these attend the Special Training Centre.

### **13. Spastics.**

There is little known about the number of spastics in Wolverhampton and only 10 adults have registered under the Council's scheme. Spastics of school age include 6 attending a special school as day pupils and 6 at special boarding schools. In addition a number of mild cases of spasticity presenting no special educational problem attend ordinary schools in the town. Some mental defec-



tives have the additional disability of being spastic and in the class of mentally defective spastic children at the Special Training Centre there are now 12 children of whom 5 are chair cases ; 3 of the spastics are also epileptics and are included in the figure for epileptics.

#### 14. Blind Persons.

The number of cases registered during the year was 32 blind and 8 partially sighted and the number of blind persons on the register at the end of the year was 341. Their age and sex distribution was :—

Age Group.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Age 2		1	1
5—10	3	2	5
11—15	1	2	3
16—20	4	1	5
21—29	7	1	8
30—39	12	9	21
40—49	17	11	28
50—59	16	18	34
60—64	13	16	29
65—69	19	23	42
70—79	31	53	84
80—84	18	27	45
85—89	6	16	22
90 & over	9	5	14
	156	185	341

The Table shows that 61 per cent of the registered blind are aged 65 years and over, and that 48 per cent are aged 70 years or over.

The following table shows the number of cases registered during the year, the number of these in which treatment was recommended and the number who received it :—

Cases Registered.	Cause of Disability.			
	Cataract.	Glaucoma.	Retrolental Fibroplasia.	Others.
Total	10	4	—	26
Recommended for Treatment	9	3	—	13
Received Treatment	4	3	—	7



## 15. Medical Examinations.

Medical examinations were carried out by the medical staff of the Health Department for the Transport, Fire Service and other Corporation departments. The total number of examinations during 1959 was 735 comprising 613 males and 122 females, including 445 (382 males and 63 females) for the Transport Department and 12 males for the Fire Service. A charge is made to the Transport and Fire Service for each examination performed, but no charge is made to other Corporation Departments.

### SECTION III. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### 1. Incidence.

The corrected notifications per 1,000 population of certain infectious diseases in Wolverhampton during 1959 are appended :—

Disease.	Rate per 1,000 population.
Scarlet Fever	0.53
Whooping Cough	1.09
Measles	11.02
Dysentery	0.24
Meningococcal infection	0.01
Pneumonia	0.70
Encephalitis	0.01
Typhoid Fever	0.01
Erysipelas	0.05
Food Poisoning	0.05
Puerperal pyrexia	16.21 per 1,000 total births occurring in Wolverhampton.
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2.07 per 1,000 live births.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis, diphtheria, smallpox or paratyphoid fever.

#### 2. Scarlet Fever.

There were 77 cases, all of which were nursed at home. There were no deaths.

#### 3. Whooping Cough.

There were 159 notifications; five cases were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

**4. Measles.**

Notifications for the year numbered 1,610 compared with 809 during 1958 and 2,218 in 1957. Six cases were nursed in hospital, and no deaths occurred.

**5. Dysentery.**

Notifications were 35 ; seven cases were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

**6. Meningococcal Infection.**

The two notified cases were nursed in hospital and recovered, but a case of suppurative meningitis died in hospital on the day of admittance.

**7. Pneumonia.**

There were 103 cases of pneumonia notified and there were 137 deaths but only six of these were amongst the notified cases ; eight notified cases were nursed in hospital.

**8. Encephalitis.**

There was one case of encephalitis following mumps which was nursed in hospital.

**9. Typhoid Fever.**

There were two cases of typhoid, one in a person returning from a coach tour of Spain and the other in a person returning from his work in India. The one from India was nursed in hospital. Both recovered.

**10. Food Poisoning.**

The number of cases notified was 7 ; only two were nursed in hospital and there were no deaths.

**11. Puerperal Pyrexia.**

The number of cases notified was 65, of which only 20 were Wolverhampton residents. Of the Wolverhampton cases, 5 were confined at home and 15 in hospital. The other 45 cases were all confined in Wolverhampton hospitals.



## 12. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were 5 cases ; two were born in hospital and three at home. There was no apparent impairment of vision.

## 13. Miscellaneous.

Among the miscellaneous cases notified were 7 cases of erysipelas.

## 14. Venereal Diseases.

The treatment of these diseases is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board and facilities are provided at the Royal Hospital.

**SYPHILIS.** During the year 56 cases (33 males and 23 females) were dealt with for the first time ; 10 of them were suffering from primary or secondary syphilis or latent syphilis in the first year of infection. Of these 56 cases, 40 were Wolverhampton residents.

**GONORRHOEA.** There were 250 cases (206 males and 44 females) dealt with for the first time, and 172 of these were Wolverhampton residents. In addition, 3 Wolverhampton residents suffering from gonorrhoea were dealt with for the first time at Dudley.

**OTHER CONDITIONS.** The number of cases dealt with for the first time was 812 (548 males and 264 females), but 472 of them (267 males and 205 females) did not require treatment. In addition 3 Wolverhampton residents suffering from one of these other conditions were dealt with for the first time at Dudley.

## 15. Tuberculosis.

The local health authority is responsible for measures designed to prevent tuberculosis, and they include advising the Housing Committee on the desirability of providing housing accommodation for families containing a tuberculous member, persuading all contacts of known cases to report for examination, the routine patch testing of all infants attending welfare centres and all school

entrants, and B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers of whom 1,373 were vaccinated during the year as well as 303 older school children and students. X-ray facilities readily available to general practitioners have continued to be available in ascertaining cases.

Since 1920 there have been continuous declines in both pulmonary and non-pulmonary death rates in Wolverhampton. In 1951 the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis had declined to 51 per 100,000, in 1955 to 17, in 1957 to 11, in 1958 to 10 and in 1959 (with 13 deaths, 10 pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary) it declined to 9 per 100,000.

#### Notification.

Year	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Pulmonary					
Male	74	97	84	91	62
Female	51	69	52	41	34
Non-Pulmonary					
Male	7	10	4	7	3
Female	10	8	10	2	4
Total	142	184	150	141	103

The cases remaining on the register at the end of 1959 were classified as follows :—

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Male	745	Male	53
Female	496	Female	57
	<u>1,241</u>		<u>110</u>

#### Deaths.

The deaths from tuberculosis in 1959 and the preceding 4 years are given below :—

Year	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Pulmonary					
Male	19	14	13	8	8
Female	3	4	1	3	2
Non-Pulmonary					
Male	3	1	1	1	3
Female	2	—	2	3	—
Total	27	19	17	15	13

Details of notifications and deaths are given below :—

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1— 4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	2	4	1	2	—	—	1	—
15—24	11	10	—	2	—	—	—	—
25—44	22	15	—	—	4	1	—	—
45—64	20	3	1	—	3	—	1	—
65—74	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75 & over	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	62	34	3	4	8	2	3	—

## 16. Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to cancer and allied conditions was 287. The age and sex distribution of the cases was :—

Age.	Male.	Female.	Total.
0— 1	—	—	—
1— 4	—	—	—
5—14	1	3	4
15—24	2	1	3
25—44	8	11	19
45—64	58	55	113
65—74	50	33	83
75 & over	32	33	65
	—	—	—
	151	136	287
	—	—	—



The sites of the disease were :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tongue	2	1	3
Tonsil	—	1	1
Pharynx	1	—	1
Oesophagus	3	4	7
Stomach	27	20	47
Large Intestine	7	14	21
Rectum	3	4	7
Liver and Biliary Passages	6	2	8
Pancreas	1	2	3
Larynx	1	—	1
Lung and bronchus	60	12	72
Mediastinal glands (sarcoma)	1	—	1
Thoracic organs (secondary)	—	1	1
Breast	—	31	31
Uterus	—	15	15
Ovary	—	9	9
Vagina	—	1	1
Prostate	14	—	14
Testis	1	—	1
Scrotum	1	—	1
Bladder	5	2	7
Skin (melanoma)	1	—	1
Skin (epithelioma)	1	—	1
Brain	—	1	1
Bone (lower limb)	1	—	1
Lymph nodes (secondary)	1	—	1
Other sites	6	7	13
Lymphosarcoma and reticulosarcoma	1	1	2
Hodgkin's disease	4	1	5
Reticulosis	—	1	1
Multiple Myeloma	1	—	1
Leukæmia	2	6	8
Totals	151	136	287

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
**F. Binns Hartley, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.**

The number of qualified inspectors employed was again below establishment.

Progress in slum clearance continued satisfactorily, but the demands on the staff in this sphere of activity were again heavy with the result that action in other fields was inadequate.

During the early part of the year, the Minister of Housing and Local Government called for vigorous action to establish smoke control areas and, in accordance with his request, the Council submitted a programme defining their immediate and long term intentions. The first area comprised a portion of the town centre and a survey was commenced; by the end of the year, this had been completed and the proposal referred to the Minister. In addition, a survey of the second proposed area was in progress. To assist the department in the execution of this programme, the Council decided to reduce the rate of representation of unfit properties from 500 to 300 a year with effect from the 1st January, 1960, and to review the rate of progress in each sphere at the end of a year. Furthermore, the Council appointed an additional Specialist Public Health Inspector specifically for duties in connection with smoke control.

In accordance with a directive from the Minister of Health, various details are included concerning the public swimming baths in the borough. The Minister also requested that the particulars required under Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937, which were previously embodied in the narrative report, should in future be given in the form of an annex; their separate submission, hitherto required, to the Minister of Labour was no longer necessary.

On the 31st March, the rodent control grants payable to local authorities under Section 11 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ceased, but a circular from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food stated that the withdrawal of the grant did not imply a lessening of the interest by the Minister in the exercise by Councils of their functions under Part I of the Act.



The meat inspection staff again comprised three full-time inspectors, and one hundred per cent inspection continued to be maintained both at the Public Abattoir and the one private slaughterhouse. The quality of livestock continued to improve with a resultant reduction in the quantities of meat and offal condemned. The weights of tuberculous beef have decreased substantially during the past ten years ; the decrease in the incidence of tuberculosis is due almost entirely to the policy of area eradication pursued by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. For the first time, no animals were received for slaughter under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Orders, 1938—1946.

In January, certain of the provisions of The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 came into operation. The aim of the regulations is to secure and maintain the highest possible standard of hygiene in slaughterhouses and protect sound meat from contamination. Certain of the requirements of The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 also came into force at the beginning of the year.

In February, The Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959 came into operation. This Order appointed the 2nd November, 1959 as the earliest day by which local authorities might submit their reports to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 concerning the slaughterhouse requirements of their districts. The Act specifies that these reports must be made during the twelve months after the appointed day.

Under Section 3 (1) of the afore-mentioned Act, each local authority is required to review and, after consultation with such organisations as appear to the authority to represent the interests concerned, to report to the Minister on :—

- (a) the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughterhouse facilities having regard to the needs both of persons requiring the use of such facilities and of other persons ; and
- (b) the slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become available to meet those requirements.



The results of the tests on milk samples indicated that a satisfactory milk supply was again maintained. The reports on ice cream samples taken were also very satisfactory. With regard to the sampling of food and drugs, 5.28% of the samples taken for analysis were found to be non-genuine or otherwise unsatisfactory. Minor infringements of the Labelling of Food Order were the principal cause of complaint. Three samples of milk were found to contain extraneous water, and legal proceedings were instituted.

Routine inspections of food premises resulted in the remedy of 969 contraventions of The Food Hygiene Regulations as compared with 345 for the previous year. Although the number of improvements showed a marked increase, a more intensive effort is required in order to attain a satisfactory standard of food hygiene.

All members of the staff have carried out their duties in a keen and efficient manner and the contents of this report summarise their continued efforts.

## **SECTION IV**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **1. Water Supplies**

Routine samples were taken from the town's main supplies ; 30 were submitted for chemical analysis and 30 for bacteriological examination. The reports received indicated that the supplies were satisfactory.

#### **2. Public Swimming Baths**

Public swimming baths, operated by the Council, are situated at Bath Avenue and Tudor Road ; two baths are in use at each location.

The baths are filled with water from a town main supply ; this water is then treated continuously by filtration and breakpoint chlorination. Caustic soda is also added and a pH value of 7.8 to 8.0 is maintained. The rate of treatment is equivalent to a complete change of water every two and a half hours.

Routine samples were taken from the four baths ; 20 samples were submitted for chemical analysis and 20 for bacteriological examination. There were no coliform bacilli present in any of the latter samples and all the 40 samples were reported to be satisfactory. The standards imposed are those obtaining for drinking water.

#### **3. Offensive Trades**

Offensive trades operated upon four premises, the trades of fat melter, bone boiler, blood boiler and drier, and gut scraper being carried on.

#### **4. Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises**

Sixteen applications were received and approved under Section 87 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936 for the registration of hairdressers and their premises ; 175 persons and their premises are now on the register and 46 inspections were made. Three informal notices were served, 2 were complied with and 11 improvements recorded.

## 5. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933

Five applications were received for entry in the local authority's list of persons entitled to sell poisons under Part II of the above-mentioned Act and the Regulations made thereunder; these applications were granted. A total of 147 persons and firms operating from 193 premises is now on the register; 34 routine inspections were carried out.

## 6. Sanitation

A total of 1,619 complaints was received and investigated.

The following tables give details of the action taken :—

### (a) Dwelling houses—

Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	1,148
Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	643
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	312
Informal notices complied	...	...	...	...	...	562
Statutory notices complied	...	...	...	...	...	273

### (b) Drainage systems found obstructed—

Drains—Found obstructed	...	...	...	...	...	215
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	151
(The Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1925)						
Cleared	...	...	...	...	...	215
Public sewers—Found obstructed	...	...	...	...	...	135
Referred to and cleared by Borough Engineer	...	...	...	...	...	135
Private sewers—Found obstructed	...	...	...	...	...	25
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	92
(The Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1925)						
Cleared	...	...	...	...	...	25

### (c) Miscellaneous visits made

...	...	...	...	...	...	1,671
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

### (d) Total re-visits and improvements—

Total re-visits to all premises	...	...	...	...	...	3,824
Total improvements recorded	...	...	...	...	...	1,882

Legal proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 were instituted as follows :—

### Section 39

Three offences (i) Work completed and summons withdrawn.

(ii) Adjourned 1 week—work completed and summons withdrawn.

(iii) Adjourned 28 days—work completed and summons withdrawn.



## Section 45

- Five offences
- (i) Work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (ii) Adjourned 14 days—fine of £3. 0. 0 imposed—work subsequently completed.
  - (iii) Summons withdrawn (notices incorrectly served).
  - (iv) Adjourned 3 weeks—work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (v) Adjourned 3 weeks—work completed and summons withdrawn.

## Section 94

- Five offences
- (i) Adjourned 1 week—work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (ii) Adjourned 1 week—work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (iii) Adjourned 28 days—work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (iv) Work completed and summons withdrawn.
  - (v) Adjourned 3 weeks—work completed and summons withdrawn.

**7. Infectious Diseases**

One hundred and seventy-four visits were made in connection with cases of infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Housing conditions, contacts and their employment, milk supplies and, in appropriate cases, the means of isolation formed the subjects of the enquiries.

**8. Keeping of Animals**

Thirty-five inspections of premises were made in connection with the keeping of animals. One informal notice was served, 1 was complied with and 6 improvements recorded.

**9. Disinfection and Disinfestation**

The following table summarises the action taken :—

## Disinfection—

No. of rooms fumigated	...	...	...	72
No. of rooms sprayed	...	...	...	29
No. of library books fumigated	...	...	...	92
Articles sprayed :—				
Personal clothing	...	...	...	54
Bedding	...	...	...	11
Blankets	...	...	...	9
Sheets	...	...	...	11

## Disinfestation—

No. of rooms fumigated	...	...	...	88
No. of rooms sprayed	...	...	...	165

**10. Smoke Abatement**

All the sections of the Clean Air Act have been in force since the 1st June, 1958 but 1959 was the first full year of their operation.

The general effect of the Act upon industry is to control the emission of smoke to reasonable proportions rather than to prohibit it altogether.

Defences are provided in respect of emissions which are :—

- (a) solely due to the lighting up of a furnace which is cold, all practicable steps having been taken to prevent or minimise the emission ; or
- (b) solely due to some unforeseeable failure of a furnace or of apparatus used in connection with a furnace ; or
- (c) solely due to the enforced use of an unsuitable fuel ; or
- (d) due to a combination of two or more of the causes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c).

Furthermore, the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958—made by the Minister in pursuance of powers available to him under the Act—provide that smoke emissions of the following density and duration shall be left out of account for the purpose of Section 1 which provisionally prohibits dark smoke from chimneys :—

- (a) A maximum aggregate emission of dark smoke varying from 10 to 41 minutes in any period of 8 hours, according to the number of furnaces and to soot blowing operations.
- (b) A maximum of 4 minutes continuous emission of dark smoke ; this standard does not apply when the emission is caused by soot blowing.
- (c) A maximum of 2 minutes aggregate emission of black smoke during any period of 30 minutes.

The effect of the allowances in (a) is that smoke, which would contravene the Regulations if emitted from a small installation, would not constitute an offence if emitted from a larger one ; the allowances are for eight hour periods, and a very prolonged observation may be necessary to reveal an infringement.



Thirty smoke observations of varying duration were carried out and infringements of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were observed from only one installation. In several other instances, the rates at which smoke was emitted indicated that infringements might have been recorded if the observations had been continued for a number of hours.

All the excessive emissions were recorded during a single observation from a chimney serving two steam boilers and a metallurgical furnace. The cause of the contraventions was the operation of a relief boiler by a new employee during a period of an unusually heavy demand for steam. The steam boilers, which are the chief sources of smoke, will be dispensed with during the firm's current re-equipment programme, and the company agreed to control the emissions as far as practicable until the boilers were abolished.

When the circumstances indicated that a prolonged observation might have revealed an infringement, the premises were visited and the statutory provisions discussed with the occupiers. A number of improvements were subsequently effected, including the conversion of hand fired coal burning furnaces to oil firing, the installation of mechanical stokers and the change to use of smokeless fuel. In one instance, following complaints of soot emission, automatic stoking equipment was serviced and subsequently there was no further complaint.

In each instance where notice of the proposal to install a new furnace was given to the local authority in accordance with Section 3 (3) of the Act, the furnace was of a type capable of being operated in accordance with the standards imposed.

One grit separator, installed to a steam boiler chimney, proved very effective in removing particulate matter from the flue gases.

Smoke Control Orders provide a means of controlling smoke emissions from chimneys in specified areas. With the exception of smoke from chimneys which are exempted from an Order, the only smoke permissible from any chimney is that from the combustion of an approved fuel. Anthracite, dry steam coal, the various forms of coke and other carbonised fuels, gas and electricity constitute the list of approved fuels.



### Smoke Control Areas

During the year, the Council formulated a programme of smoke control areas in accordance with a request from the Minister to define their immediate and long term intentions. The first area listed comprised a portion of the town centre; the decision in principle had been made some time previously but progress had been delayed by shortage of staff.

The remainder of the programme comprises :—

- (a) Stage I—a series of areas situated north of a line from Aldersley on the western side to Fallings Park in the east.
- (b) Stage II—a series of areas situated in the south western portion of the borough.
- (c) Stage III—a series of areas situated in the eastern portion of the borough.
- (d) Stage IV—the remaining portion of the central area.

The remaining portion of the central area has been scheduled to be dealt with as the last stage in order that the redevelopment programme may be completed. Fireplaces in new buildings are required to conform to a standard which makes them suitable for use in a smoke control area, and therefore no modifications should be necessary in premises built after the 1st November, 1957.

In view of the fact that other provisions of the Act may be more suitably applied for the control of smoke in predominantly industrial areas, the Minister recommended that these should not be included in smoke control areas; consequently certain industrial areas in the borough have not been included in the programme.

By the end of the year, a survey of the first area had been made and the proposal referred to the Minister. In addition, a survey of the second proposed area was in progress.

Notification of Intention to Install Furnaces. Notifications were received in respect of 15 installations in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 (3).

Applications for Prior Approval. Applications were received in respect of two installations under the provisions of Section 3 (2) and in each case the proposal was approved.

**Height of Chimneys.** When proposals for the erection of new chimneys at other than domestic, shop or commercial premises are submitted to the local authority for approval, they must be rejected unless the heights of the proposed chimneys are sufficient to prevent nuisance from dust, smoke and gases.

Two proposals to erect chimneys at industrial premises were received and approved.

### **11. Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution**

Investigations were continued by means of one deposit gauge, four lead peroxide installations, one volumetric sulphur dioxide measuring instrument and one smoke measuring instrument.

The deposit of solid matter in the vicinity of the deposit gauge in Cleveland Road was at the rate of 230.71 tons per square mile.

### **12. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948**

In addition to works of building construction, etc. it is estimated that there are 927 factories, 855 having mechanical power and 72 having no mechanical power.

Ninety-five inspections were carried out for the purpose of enforcing those parts of the Factories Acts and Regulations for which the local authority is responsible. As a result of these inspections, 22 notices were served; of the 30 cases in which defects were found, 28 referred to insufficient, unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, and in 1 case there was no separate sanitary accommodation for the sexes. Cases in which defects were remedied numbered 19, all of which referred to sanitary conveniences.

Appendix 1 gives details with regard to Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937.

### **13. Noise Nuisances**

Section 107 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936 makes provision for action to be taken in respect of excessive, unreasonable or unnecessary noise where this is injurious or



dangerous to health, but in proceedings in respect of noise occasioned in the course of a trade, business or occupation it is a good defence that the best practicable means of preventing or mitigating it, having regard to the cost, have been adopted ; attempts are therefore made to achieve satisfactory results by co-operation.

The majority of the complaints received referred to noises made by industrial operations. Investigations showed that these noises were those normally produced in the industries concerned and could not be prevented. However, when the noise resulted from work at night, efforts were made to have the operations concerned carried out during normal day-time working hours.

All complaints were brought to the notice of the persons or firms concerned and efforts were made to reduce the amount and duration of the noise to a minimum in each case.

Sound proofing of a factory building was investigated by one firm and the matter was still under consideration at the end of the year.

#### **14. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

An additional factory was registered, but the firm concerned vacated registered premises which were subsequently used for other purposes. At the end of the year, the type of work specified in the Act was carried on at 7 registered premises.

#### **15. Canal Boats**

Twenty-six inspections were carried out and 12 infringements of the Public Health Act and the Canal Boat Regulations were found. Thirteen notices were served, 7 of which were complied with ; in addition, 5 of the notices outstanding at the end of 1958 were complied with.

The population of the boats inspected amounted to 61 persons, of whom 39 were adults and 22 were children.



## **16. Rodent Control**

On March 31st, the rodent control grants payable to local authorities under Section 11 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ceased. A Ministry circular stated that the withdrawal of the grant did not imply a lessening of the interest by the Minister in the exercise by Councils of their functions under Part I of the Act. Information on up-to-date methods resulting from research and development work in this country and abroad will be made available to local authorities, and advice and instruction courses will be given when requested.

The circular also stated that the annual report, which had previously been required by the Minister in respect of the financial year, would now cover the calendar year.

In accordance with instructions, the following report for the 9 months ended 31st December was submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

## REPORT FOR 9 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (incl. Coun- cil Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)	
(i) Number of properties in Local Authority's District	250	44,782	7,310	52,342	7
(ii) Number of properties inspected as a result of—					
(a) Notification	84	565	144	793	—
(b) Survey under the Act	—	—	—	—	7
(c) Otherwise	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Total inspections carried out— including re-inspec- tions	118	641	185	944	7
(iv) Number of proper- ties inspected (in Sect. ii) which were found to be infested by—					
(a) Rats {   Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	40	308	61	409	1
(b) Mice {   Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	34	185	77	296	—
(v) Number of infested properties (in Sect. iv) treated by the Local Authority	74	473	138	685	1
(vi) Total treatments carried out— including re-treatments	103	534	177	814	2

## **SECTION V**

### **HOUSING**

#### **1. Slum Clearance**

The Council's approved slum clearance programme, which provided for the clearance of 2,250 houses in areas and 250 individual houses during the five years commencing the 1st January, 1955, had been substantially completed by the end of 1958.

During 1959 satisfactory progress continued to be made ; a further 22 clearance areas, which involved 687 houses, and a further 62 individual houses were represented.

The following data summarise the progress made under the relevant parts of the Housing Act, 1957 :—



## (A) Clearance Schemes

## (i) Schemes initiated 1954—1958

Clearance Scheme	No. of occupied houses	Estimated number of persons to be displaced	Activity during the year 1959		Progress since initiation of scheme	
			No. of houses demolished	No. of persons displaced	No. of houses demolished	No. of persons displaced
ss Street	111	349	6	—	104	322
tt Street	24	100	—	—	25	70
SS Street (th Town)	71	220	—	—	71	217
thampton Road (th Town)	18	65	2	4	18	66
thew Street	142	427	21	6	145	423
ose Street	98	329	17	46	91	339
alls	119	346	—	—	122	374
l Street	223	722	11	6	225	731
Street	107	351	2	5	105	366
ane	44	139	—	—	44	147
n Street	140	453	45	7	147	472
y Street	8	29	—	—	9	30
ey Row	108	346	64	20	81	374
Stafford Street	125	381	61	29	112	399
nts Road	112	280	79	61	79	311
n's Square	94	463	58	123	58	507
Street	20	66	20	—	20	60
treet	90	295	27	165	32	269
Street (th Town)	58	195	26	67	26	174
Lane	276	779	7	401	7	412
se Street	194	618	7	139	7	139

Two schemes were confirmed, with minor modifications, by the Minister of Housing and Local Government during 1959.

## (ii) Schemes initiated during 1959

## (a) Steelhouse Lane Clearance Scheme

This scheme, comprising 210 houses in 7 Clearance Areas, was represented on the 26th January. Four Compulsory Purchase Orders, involving 6 of the Clearance Areas, were made by the Council on the 4th May. The properties included in the seventh area were in one ownership, and it was decided to purchase by agreement.

Nineteen objections were received ; the Local Public Inquiry was held on the 7th October, and confirmation of the orders is awaited.

## (b) Heath Street Clearance Scheme

This scheme, which comprised 4 Clearance Areas containing 115 houses, was represented on the 3rd April. The Council subsequently made a Compulsory Purchase Order on the 28th September. The Local Public Inquiry had not been held by the 31st December.

## (c) Wakeley Hill Clearance Scheme

This small scheme, involving 6 houses, was also represented on the 3rd April. The properties were in one ownership and it was decided to purchase by agreement. Negotiations were still proceeding at the end of the year.

## (d) Coventry Street Clearance Scheme

This scheme, which comprised 3 Clearance Areas involving 24 houses, was represented on the 31st July. The Council subsequently made a Compulsory Purchase Order on the 23rd November. The Local Public Inquiry had not been held by the 31st December.

## (e) Inkerman Street Clearance Scheme

This scheme—the largest undertaken since the war—consists of 275 houses in 5 Clearance Areas, and was represented on the 2nd October.

## (f) Peel Street Clearance Scheme

This scheme, comprising 57 houses in 2 Clearance Areas, was represented on the 27th November.

## (iii) Future Programme

The following provisional programme of the areas to be represented during 1960 was formulated :—

	Houses
Railway Street (Heath Town) Area	220
Great Hampton Street Area	100

## (B) Individual Unfit Houses

Sixty-two houses were represented for action under Part II of the Housing Act, 1957. In addition, 8 unfit houses owned by the Council were dealt with; in these instances, certificates of unfitness to satisfy the provisions of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 were issued by the Medical Officer of Health.

**2. Overcrowding**

Twelve complaints concerning alleged overcrowding were received and investigated. In no instance was overcrowding found to exist.

**3. Moveable Dwellings**

Eighty-one visits were made to accommodation of this nature.

Four applications to station caravans on various sites were received, and licences were issued in two instances. The other two applications were approved subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions, and were still pending at the end of the year.

Three applications for the renewal of licences were received and granted.

Two applications for permission to establish sites for caravans were received, and approved subject to essential services being provided. In one instance, the applicant decided not to proceed and the other application was still pending at the end of the year.

**4. Discretionary and Standard Grants**

The administrative work in connection with applications for these grants is carried out by the Borough Engineer, but this department is always consulted regarding the suitability of the property.



Two hundred and twenty such enquiries concerning discretionary grants and forty-four enquiries with regard to standard grants were received and dealt with.

The Housing Committee approved 143 applications for discretionary and 13 for standard grants. One hundred and ten discretionary grants were paid following completion of the works, but no standard grants had been paid by the end of the year.

### **5. Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923**

In the early part of the year, a procedure for the inspection of houses, owned by persons from overseas to whom advances had been made under these Acts, was initiated. Inspections of 86 houses were duly carried out; no breach of the conditions existed in 18 instances, but in 68 cases it appeared that breaches had been committed and the inspectors' reports were forwarded to the Town Clerk for such action as he considered necessary. Most of these references were in connection with sub-letting, while the remainder referred to items of disrepair. No statutory overcrowding was found to exist.

Inspections of the 86 houses will be made every twelve months until the advances have been repaid. In addition, the Borough Treasurer will forward supplemental lists to this department and the inspection procedure will apply.

### **6. Rent Act, 1957**

The following is a summary of the action taken with regard to applications received for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair and their cancellation during the period 1st January to 31st December :—

#### **Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair**

Number of applications for certificates	...	31
Number of decisions not to issue certificates		3
Number of decisions to issue certificates—		
(i) in respect of some but not all defects	...	33
(ii) in respect of all defects	... ..	1
Number of undertakings given by landlord		
under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule		19

Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ... ..	6
Number of Certificates issued ... ..	25
Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates	
Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates ... ..	14
Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ... ..	5
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections ... ..	3
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority ...	16

## SECTION VI

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### 1. Meat Inspection

##### (a) Public Abattoir

The following table gives details of the numbers of animals slaughtered during the years 1959, 1958 and 1957 :—

	1959	1958	1957
Cattle (other than cows) ... ..	13,232	15,733	17,034
Cows ... ..	4,624	5,324	3,704
Calves ... ..	2,515	3,198	4,866
Sheep ... ..	91,309	79,428	81,359
Pigs ... ..	48,195	59,343	54,053
Totals ...	159,875	163,026	161,016

The prolonged hot summer had an effect upon the total kill, which showed a decrease of 1.9% in comparison with the 1958 figure. Less cattle and pigs were killed, but an increased number of sheep was slaughtered.

The staff comprised three full-time meat inspectors and one part-time clerk.

## Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	13,232	4,624	2,515	91,309	48,195	—
Number inspected	13,232	4,624	2,515	91,309	48,195	—
All diseases except tuber- culosis and cysticerci:— Whole carcasses con- demned	2	6	9	71	46	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,897	1,551	4	1,663	1,300	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysti- cerci	21.90	33.67	0.52	1.90	2.79	—
Tuberculosis :— Whole carcasses con- demned	6	8	—	—	6	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	262	308	—	—	736	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	2.03	6.83	—	—	1.54	—
Cysticercosis :— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	33	7	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refri- geration	33	7	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—



Meat and Offal condemned. The total weight of meat and offal condemned from all sources amounted to :—

Meat	...	...	16 tons	12 cwts.	2 qrs.	1 lb.
Offal	...	...	50 tons	18 cwts.	3 qrs.	14 lbs.
Total			67 tons	11 cwts.	1 qr.	15 lbs.

The quality of livestock continued to improve with a resultant reduction in the quantities of meat and offal condemned. The weights of tuberculous beef condemned have decreased substantially during the past ten years. Figures are given below :—

Year	Cattle and Cows slaughtered	Weight of Tuberculous Beef condemned
1949	15,916	53½ tons
1954	16,574	40¾ tons
1959	17,856	10 tons

The decrease in the incidence of tuberculosis in cattle is due almost entirely to the policy of area eradication pursued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

It was estimated that only 1/600th of the total throughput of fresh carcase meat was condemned ; in 1957 and 1958, the corresponding estimated fractions were 1/300th and 1/400th respectively.

#### Analysis by Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned

	Tuberculosis		Other Diseases		Totals			
	Meat lbs.	Offal lbs.	Meat lbs.	Offal lbs.	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
air	4,529	8,762	1,462	48,348	28	3	1	17
	7,092	11,654	2,578	32,122	24	6	0	14
	—	—	625	170	—	7	0	11
	—	—	3,242	3,914	3	3	3	16
	10,830	1,307	5,385	7,819	11	6	1	1
Stores	—	—	229	—	—	2	0	5
Sources	—	—	237	18	—	2	1	3
	—	—	32	—	—	—	1	4
Totals	22,451	21,723	14,790	92,391	67	11	1	15

Tuberculosis Orders, 1938—1946. For the first time, no animals were received for slaughter.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958. Certain of the provisions of these Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1959; paragraph 37, which became operative, states that "No person shall use tobacco (including snuff) in any part of the slaughterhouse containing meat or blood or while he is handling any meat or blood."

Previously, smoking on the premises had not been statutorily forbidden; the enforcement of the paragraph displeased employees and visitors, but was accepted by the majority.

However, it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings against two wholesalers, one foreman slaughterman and one visiting butcher for contraventions of paragraph 37. All the defendants were found guilty; the wholesalers were fined £10 and £3 respectively, the slaughterman was fined £5 and the butcher was given an absolute discharge on payment of costs. With regard to the butcher's case, the Stipendiary Magistrate took into account that the defendant honestly believed that the particular Regulation applying to slaughterhouses did not apply to him, a customer. As a butcher, he was familiar with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 which did not apply to customers. He was, however, warned that any further infringement would attract a fine.

#### (b) Private Slaughterhouse

At the only private slaughterhouse, 11,364 pigs were slaughtered. Upon inspection 498 (4.38%) showed evidence of disease; 335 (2.95%) were found to be affected with tuberculosis, while 163 (1.43%) were affected with other diseases.

The total amount of meat and offal condemned was 3 tons 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 13 lbs., consisting of 2 tons 10 lbs. of meat and offal from animals affected with tuberculosis and 1 ton 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 3 lbs. from animals affected with other diseases.

## (c) Frozen Meat Wholesale Depots

Supervision of the four frozen meat wholesale depots was again maintained. The two depots located outside the boundaries of the Public Abattoir still receive quantities of home killed meat.

A total weight of 1 cwt. 25 lbs. of frozen carcase meat was condemned.

**2. Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933—1958**

Sixty licences were renewed and seven new licences issued, making a total of 67 persons on the register.

In addition five slaughtermen, issued with licences by other local authorities, were employed.

**3. Food Premises**

The following table gives details of the number of food premises, by type of business :—

Grocery and Provision	...	...	...	390
Licensed	...	...	...	332
Butchery	...	...	...	192
Fruit and Greengrocery	...	...	...	151
General	...	...	...	114
Catering	...	...	...	105
Confectionery	...	...	...	99
Fish Frying	...	...	...	58
Food Manufacturing	..	...	...	50
Wet Fish	...	...	...	32
Food Storing	...	...	...	23
Baking	...	...	...	15
Food Packing	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	159
Total				1,727



#### 4. Inspection of Food Premises

Two thousand, five hundred and eighty-eight visits were paid to food premises for the purpose of inspection.

The total weight of foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption was 8 tons 17 cwts. 0 qrs. 10 lbs.

#### 5. Disposal of Condemned Food

Carcase meat and offal are processed at the Public Abattoir, and the residual fertilisers are sold to a firm of horticulturists. Tinned goods are disposed of by incineration at the Cleansing Department's depot.

#### 6. Milk Supply

Regular inspection of dairies was carried out together with close supervision of milk processing by pasteurisation and sterilisation.

Thirty-nine inspections of dairies were made and 513 visits were paid to milk shops.

#### REGISTRATIONS

Number of Persons and Firms on register	...	431
Dairies	... ..	8
Bottled Milk Shops	... ..	445
Dairies outside the borough retailing milk within		4
Retail Purveyors	... ..	29
Dealers, Sterilisers and Pasteurisers	...	3

The following table shows details of the 320 samples taken and the tests applied :—

Class of Milk	Number taken	Appropriate Tests	Passed	Failed
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	22	Methylene Blue	19	3
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	105	Phosphatase	104	1
Pasteurised	96	Methylene Blue	100*	1
		Phosphatase	95	1
		Methylene Blue	81†	2
Sterilised	97	Turbidity	97	—

\*Four samples for Methylene Blue test void owing to high atmospheric shade temperature.

†Thirteen samples for Methylene Blue test void owing to high atmospheric shade temperature.

**Bottle Rinsings.** Eighteen samples, each consisting of 6 rinsings of milk bottles prior to filling, were taken for bacteriological examination. Two samples were reported to be unsatisfactory, and the dairy company was informed.

## 7. Ice Cream

**Vendors' Premises.** Fifty-one applications for the registration of premises for the sale of pre-packed ice cream were received and approved, and 8 premises were removed from the register, making a total of 556 premises registered.

**Manufacturers' Premises.** One manufacturer's premises was removed from the register, leaving a total of 8 premises registered.

The following table gives details of the action taken :—

Inspections of :—

Vendors' Premises	...	...	...	94
Manufacturers' Premises	...	...	...	27
Informal notices served	...	...	...	4
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	4
Total improvements recorded	...	...	...	11

## Sampling

(a) **Methylene Blue Test.** One hundred and twenty-four samples of ice cream were examined and placed in the Ministry's Provisional Grades. Five (4%) failed to pass the prescribed test compared with 2 (3%) for the previous year; following special investigations of the plants concerned, repeat samples were taken and found to be satisfactory.

The following tables show a summary of the results obtained and also give a comparison with 1958 :—

Manufactured within the borough

Year	Total No. of Samples Taken	PROVISIONAL GRADE			
		1	2	3	4
1959	40	33 82.5%	5 12.5%	2 5.0%	—
1958	27	24 88.9%	1 3.7%	1 3.7%	1 3.7%

Manufactured outside the borough

Year	Total No. of Samples Taken	PROVISIONAL GRADE			
		1	2	3	4
1959	84	79 94.0 %	2 2.4 %	3 3.6 %	—
1958	40	40 100 %	—	—	—

Combined summary

Year	Total No. of Samples Taken	PROVISIONAL GRADE			
		1	2	3	4
1959	124	112 90.3 %	7 5.6 %	5 4.1 %	—
1958	67	64 95.5 %	1 1.5 %	1 1.5 %	1 1.5 %

The following table shows the number of samples examined yearly from 1947 to 1959 inclusive, together with the number and percentage reported upon adversely :—

Year	No. of Samples	Unsatisfactory	
		No.	%
1947	69	48	70
1948	108	68	63
1949	99	31	31
1950	163	37	23
1951	117	12	10
1952	141	19	13
1953	140	1	.7
1954	106	7	6.6
1955	50	2	4.0
1956	67	4	6.0
1957	76	8	10.5
1958	67	2	3.0
1959	124	5	4.1



(b) Chemical Analysis. Twenty-five samples of ice cream, including one choc-bar, were submitted for chemical analysis, compared with 24 for the previous year. All samples were reported to be genuine; the average fat content (excluding choc-bar) was 7.1% as against the previous year's figure of 9.13%.

Ice Lollies. In addition to the eight premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream, one establishment remains registered for the manufacture of ice lollies only. Twenty-three samples of varying flavours and compositions were submitted for bacteriological examination compared with 39 for the previous year; all samples were reported to be satisfactory.

## 8. Sampling

Two hundred and eighty-four samples of food and drugs, consisting of 99 formal and 185 informal, were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst. Fifteen samples (5.28%), six of which were formal, were found to be non-genuine or otherwise unsatisfactory.

Minor infringements of the Labelling of Food Order were the principal cause of complaint.

Three samples of milk were found to contain extraneous water. Proceedings were taken against the producer, resulting in fines totalling £20 0s. 0d. and costs of £9 16s. 0d. being imposed. Three samples of farm bottled milk were found to be deficient in fat. The farm was visited and "appeal to cow" samples taken. These samples and observation of the bottling process indicated that the deficiencies arose through carelessness while bottling the milk. A letter of warning was sent to the farmer. A consumer complained of sediment in a bottle of sterilised milk. On analysis it was found that the sediment contained vegetable debris and fibres, starch (including ginger starch) and sandy matter and was of domestic origin. The consumer agreed with the finding.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

## Summary of Samples taken

Article	Number examined			Number adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Butter ... ..		6	6			
Cereals ... ..		4	4			
Cheese ... ..		1	1			
Cheese Spread ... ..		1	1		1	1
Coffee & Chicory ... ..		3	3			
Cream ... ..		7	7			
Dressed Crab ... ..		1	1			
Fruit Drinks ... ..		9	9			
Glacé Cherries ... ..		4	4		2	2
Gravy Browning ... ..		3	3			
Ground Almonds ... ..		3	3			
Herbs ... ..		2	2			
Honey ... ..		1	1			
Ice Cream ... ..		25	25			
Jam ... ..		19	19			
Lard ... ..		1	1			
Lemon Curd ... ..		5	5			
Lemon Peel ... ..	1		1			
Marmalade ... ..		4	4			
Margarine ... ..		6	6			
Marzipan ... ..		4	4			
Marzipan Substitute ... ..		1	1			
Meat Pastes ... ..		2	2			
Milk ... ..	81	8	89	5	2	
Milk "Appeal to Cow" ... ..	8		8			
Milk F.C.U. ... ..		2	2			
Milk Drink, Flavoured ... ..		1	1			
Miscellaneous Drugs ... ..		3	3			
Miscellaneous Foods ... ..		26	26			
Natural Wheat Germ ... ..	1	1	2	1	1	2
Paprika ... ..	1	1	2		1	1
Pickles ... ..		4	4		1	1
Rum ... ..	2		2			
Sauce ... ..		12	12			
Sausage ... ..		5	5			
Spices ... ..		5	5			
Vinegar ... ..		4	4			
Whisky ... ..	4		4			
White Peppercorns ... ..	1	1	2		1	1
Totals ... ..	99	185	284	6	9	15

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Administrative Action Taken Regarding Samples Reported not to be Genuine

No. of Sample	Article of Food	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity	Legal proceedings Instituted		Observations
				Fine inflicted £ s. d.	Costs imposed £ s. d.	
4	Milk	Informal	Extraneous water 18.8%			See sample Nos. 15 and 16
8	Natural Wheat Germ	Informal	Deficient in phosphorus and calcium			See sample No. 54
11	White Peppercorns	Informal	Stone present			Formal sample genuine
12	Paprika	Informal	Insoluble ash 1.6%			Formal sample genuine
15	Milk	Formal	Added water 9%	10 0 0	} 9 16 0	Letter of warning sent to vendor
16	Milk	Formal	Added water 1%	10 0 0		
54	Natural Wheat Germ	Formal	Deficient of stated amount of phosphorus 31.7%	10 0 0		
			Deficient of stated amount of calcium 89.0%			
57	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 6.5%			} Letter of warning sent to producer
69	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 1.65%			
70	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 5.0%			
147	Cheese Spread	Informal	Deficient of 3% of butter fat claimed on label			
216	Glacé Cherries	Informal	Liquid glucose present not described as such			Formal sample not available
218	Capsicum Pickle	Informal	Contained Benzoic Acid 220 parts per million			Formal sample not available
220	Glacé Cherries	Informal	Liquid glucose present not described as such			Formal sample found genuine
226	Milk, Sterilised	Informal	Deposit—12 parts per 100,000			Formal sample not available
						Domestic origin



## **9. Watercress**

Five samples of watercress were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were reported to be satisfactory.

## **10. (a) Danish Pasteurised Hen Egg Albumen**

One hundred and seventy-four samples were taken for bacteriological examination; no organisms of the salmonella or shigella groups were isolated.

### **(b) American Pasteurised Hen Egg Albumen**

One hundred and fourteen samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

Salmonella Montevideo organisms were isolated in three samples, and Salmonella Oranienburg organisms were found to be present in two other samples. The consignment from which these samples were obtained had been received by a local firm from their London depot. Contact was made with the appropriate Medical Officer of Health, who requested the return to the depot of the five drums from which the adverse samples had been taken, in order that the contents could be subjected to further heat treatment. The drums were duly despatched and received at the depot.

### **(c) English Pasteurised Hen Egg Albumen**

One sample was taken for bacteriological examination; no organisms of the salmonella or shigella groups were isolated.

## **11. Catering Establishments**

Routine inspections of hotels, restaurants, snack bars and school kitchens totalled 173. Twenty-one informal notices were served, 20 were complied with and 125 improvements recorded.

## **12. Provision Shops, Warehouses and other Shop Premises**

Six hundred and fifty-nine inspections of provision shops and warehouses, and 385 inspections of other shop premises were made. Seventy-seven informal notices were served, 95 were complied with and 378 improvements recorded.

### **13. Wet and Fried Fish Shops**

Ninety-eight inspections were made of these premises. Eleven informal notices were served, 10 were complied with and 54 improvements recorded.

### **14. Shell Fish**

Four samples of mussels were taken for bacteriological examination ; the reports received were satisfactory.

### **15. Mobile Fish and Chip Shop**

One mobile shop continued to operate.

### **16. Registration of Butchers' Shops and Premises where Preserved Food, etc. is Prepared or Manufactured**

The number of persons and premises registered in accordance with Section 67 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936 increased by 13 from the previous year and totalled 192. Routine inspections numbered 373 ; 46 informal notices were served and 24 were complied with, resulting in 136 improvements.

With regard to premises where preserved food, etc. is prepared or manufactured, 47 inspections were made of the 57 registered premises. Two informal notices were served, 2 were complied with and 28 improvements recorded.

### **17. Licensed Premises**

Routine inspections numbered 218 ; 70 informal notices were served, 70 were complied with and 240 improvements recorded.

One hundred and twenty-four swabs of beer glasses were taken from 30 premises. Three swabs from one of these premises were reported to be unsatisfactory. Repeat swabs were taken and proved to be satisfactory.

### **18. Bakehouses**

Thirty-five routine inspections were made ; one informal notice was served, one was complied with and 5 improvements recorded.

**19. (a) Retail Markets**

Routine inspections were made of all food stalls in both the open and covered markets. In view of the impending closure of these markets, no radical change could be effected but efforts were made to enforce the relevant requirements of Parts II and III of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

**(b) Wholesale Market**

A report was prepared concerning the unsatisfactory conditions in the Wholesale Market, and was submitted to the Markets Committee for consideration. The matter was in abeyance at the end of the year.

**20. Food Storage Rooms**

Numerous premises are used in connection with the Retail and Wholesale Markets for the storage of fruit and vegetables ; others are used as banana ripening rooms.

Most of these premises are unsuitable for storing food and the position was still being investigated at the end of the year.



## 21. The Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The following table summarises the action taken regarding contraventions of this Act :—

Article of Food	Nature of Offence	Action Taken
Bottle of milk	Presence of glass splinter	Letter sent to dairy.
Bottle of lemon squash	Unclean condition of bottle	Warning letter sent to firm of manufacturers and distributors.
White loaf of bread	Presence of steam fly	Warning letter sent to firm of retailer/bakers.
Cream biscuit	Presence of piece of metal	Warning letter sent to firm of biscuit manufacturers.
Brawn	Presence of extraneous matter	Warning letters sent to retailer and to firm of wholesalers.
Bags of flour	Extraneous matter	Warning letters sent to retailer and to firm of wholesaler/packers.
Tin of garden peas	Presence of snail	Warning letter sent to firm of canners.
Loaves of bread	Sour and sticky condition due to presence of rope-forming bacteria	Warning letter sent to firm of retailer/bakers.
Bilberry & cream tart	Presence of metal nut & bolt	Legal proceedings instituted. Defendants fined £15 with £7 11s. special costs (incl. £5 5s. advocate's fee).
Cake	Presence of feather	Warning letters sent to firm of retailers and to firm of wholesaler/bakers.
Slice of bread	Presence of beetle	Legal proceedings instituted. Defendants fined £3 with £9 9s. costs.
Packet of parsley sauce	Presence of beetle & larvæ	Warning letters sent to retailer and to firm of packers.
Chocolate layer cake	Presence of small piece of metal	Warning letters sent to retailer and to firm of wholesaler/manufacturers.

## 22. The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

The following table gives details of the contraventions found and remedied with regard to the requirements relating to food premises under Part IV of the Regulations :—

Regulation		Contraventions	
		Found	Remedied
14	Sanitary conveniences	266	243
	Hand washing notices	50	50
16	Wash hand basins	107	124
17	First-aid materials	9	3
18	Accommodation for Clothing, etc.	7	1
19	Sinks	82	83
16 & 19	Soap, towels, etc.	23	20
20	Lighting	4	3
21	Ventilation	8	2
23	Cleanliness and repair	306	346
24	Accumulation of refuse	21	20
Totals		883	895

With regard to other requirements of the Regulations, the following table gives details of the contraventions found and remedied :—

Regulation		Contraventions	
		Found	Remedied
6	Cleanliness of equipment	53	57
8	Risk of contamination of food	10	11
9	Personal cleanliness	5	5
30	Persons carrying meat	1	1
Totals		69	74

### 23. Slaughter of a Pig and the disposal of the carcase

Information was received from the Chief Public Health Inspector of an adjoining Urban District Council that a pig carcase from a Wolverhampton breeder had been received at a slaughterhouse within his district. The carcase which had been submitted for grading was minus the offal and had not been inspected.

The breeder was interviewed at his premises with the result that legal proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958 were instituted against him on four counts as follows :—

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Section	Offence	Plea	Result
62	Using certain premises as a slaughterhouse without holding a licence granted by the local authority	Guilty	Fined £15.0.0 with £5.0.0 advocate's fee

#### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Section	Offence	Plea	Result
3	Slaughtering a swine without holding a licence granted by the local authority	Not guilty	Absolute discharge 4/- costs
1 & 5	Slaughtering a swine in a slaughterhouse without stunning	Not guilty	Summons dismissed
2 & 5	Slaughtering a certain animal elsewhere than in a slaughterhouse without stunning	Not guilty	Found guilty — fined £15.0.0



## APPENDIX 1

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect  
of the year 1959 for the County Borough of Wolverhampton  
in the County of Stafford

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1937

## Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities ... ..	72	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority ... ..	855	95	22	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority ... .. (excluding outworkers premises)	39	1	—	—
Total ... ..	966	96	22	—

## 2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”)

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	1	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	26	18	—	7	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	1	—	1	—	—
Total ...	30	19	1	10	—

Part VIII of the Act  
Outwork  
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel } Making etc., } Cleaning and } Washing	21 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Household linen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel cables and chains	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	8	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc. of buttons etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	30	—	—	—	—	—